



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS

SUBJECT OPERATION REZONE

FILE NUMBER 194B-SC-23790

SECTION NUMBER 1



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype  
☐ Facsimile  
☐ AIRTEL

## PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ UNCLAS E F T O  
☐ UNCLAS

Date 3/24/94

TO *RHR/ldp* : DIRECTOR, FBI b7C  
 (Attn: SSA   Public Corruption Unit)

FROM : SAC, SACRAMENTO (194B-SC-23790) (P)

SUBJECT : LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, Councilman,  
 Clovis City Council, Clovis, California;  
 JEFFREY T. ROBERTS, dba  
 JEFFREY T. ROBERTS PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICE,  
 Fresno, California;  
 WILLIAM TATHAM, JR. - VICTIM;  
 CSLPO - LOCAL LEVEL  
 (OO: SC) b7C  
b7D

For the information of FBIHQ. on 3/16/94.  

  San  
 Francisco, California, telephonically contacted AUSA JOHN K.  
 VINCENT and SA   Sacramento Division, and  
  Eastern District of California  
 (EDC), and territory of the Sacramento Division,  

*Det P2*

② - Bureau  
 2 - Sacramento

JJW:mjj

(4)

SSA  

ADVISED ON 3/25/94

TO Submit AIRTEL WITH APPROPRIATE LHM  
 FOR DISSEMINATION; A.G. 759.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_

(Number)

(Time)

Per \_\_\_\_\_

194B-SC-23790

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Upon receipt of the aforementioned [redacted]  
examination of its content, CHARLES STEVENS, United States  
Attorney, EDC, Sacramento, granted immunity [redacted]

[redacted]  
because the development featured more lots than permitted.

[redacted]  
[redacted] map approval with the Clovis City Planning  
Commission and City Council. In accordance with their strategy,

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[REDACTED] City Council hearing (where pro-growth was being challenged by at least 200 people in the audience) SORENSEN led the effort to convince fellow City Councilmembers to approve amending the city's general plan and

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] to develop 152 lots, [REDACTED] map change to the City Council for pre-zoning approval.

Since members of the Clovis City Planning Commission had unanimously approved the project and pre-zoning and map change both fell within limitations established in the general plan amendment, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Council's agenda with the expectation that the Council would vote on the project at a subsequent Council hearing.

[REDACTED]

The 1/3/94 request resulted in City Council members ARMSTRONG, WINN, and SORENSEN voting against, with Mayor LAWSON and GLEN BRIANT voting for approval. [REDACTED]

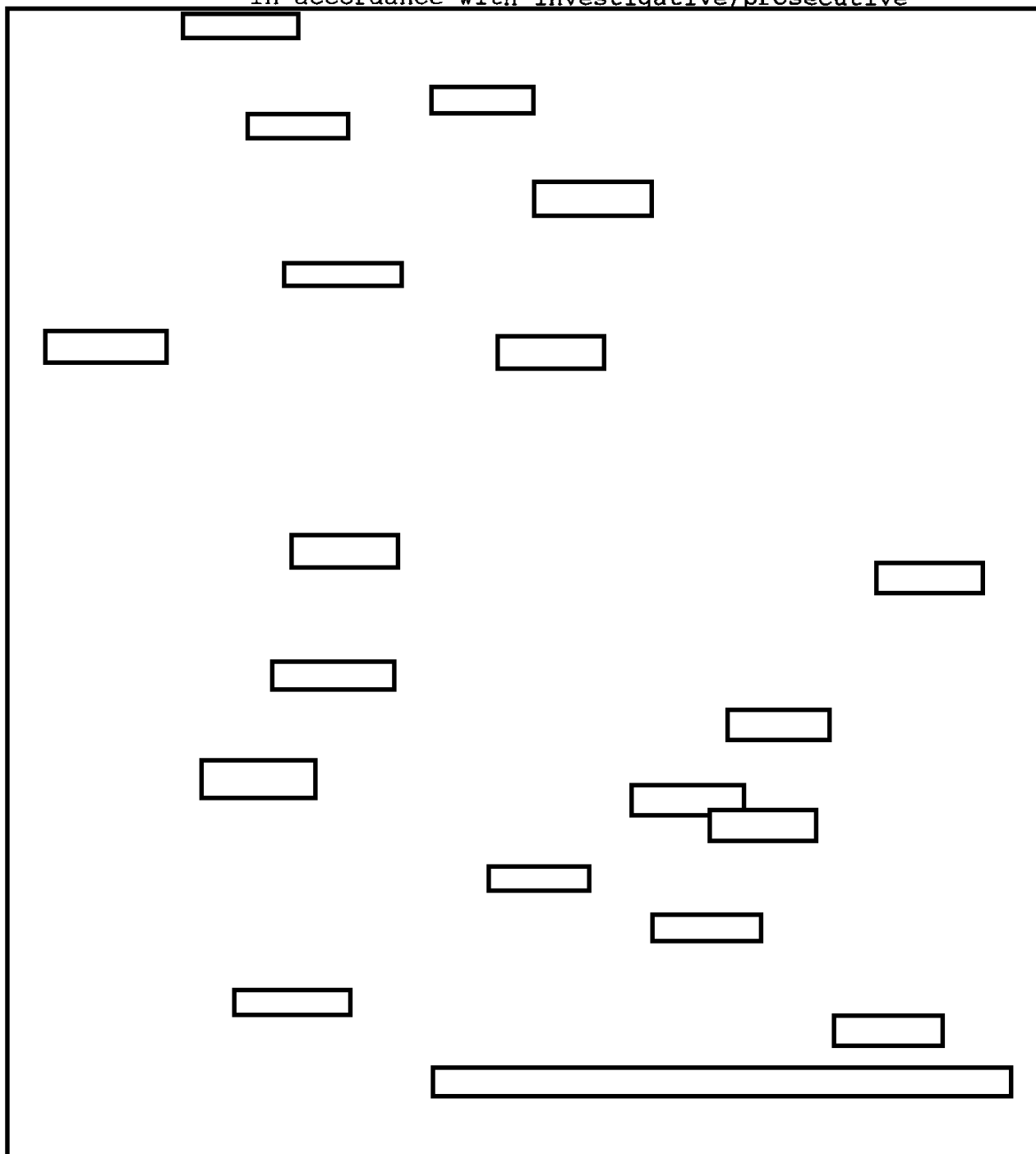
[REDACTED]

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194B-SC-23790

In accordance with investigative/prosecutive

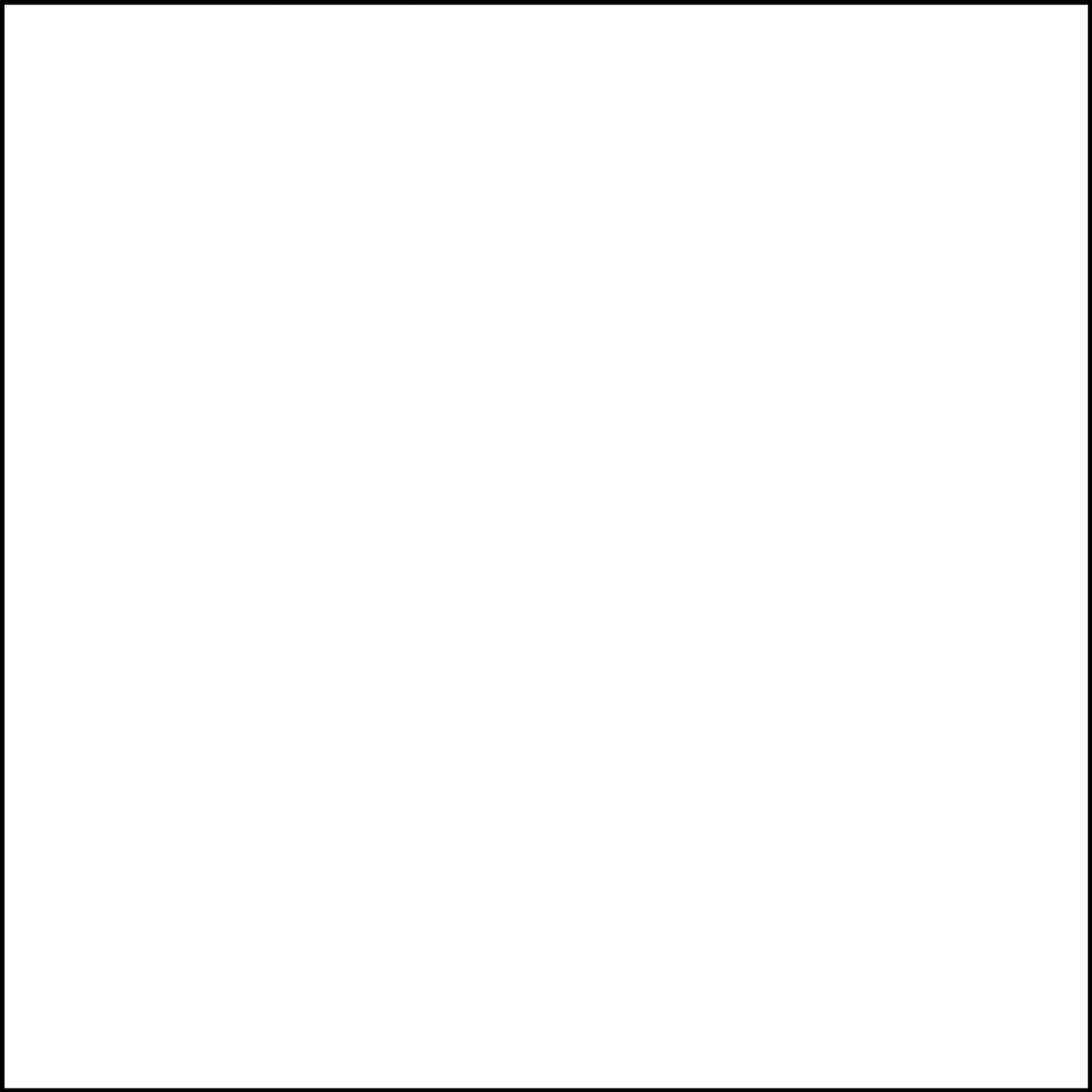


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194B-SC-23790

On 3/19/94, the investigating agent confronted both ROBERTS and SORENSEN concerning captioned matter and provided each a letter from AUSA JOHN K. VINCENT, indicating they were now "targets" of a grand jury investigation. [REDACTED] indicated any



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194B-SC-23790

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United States Attorney's Opinion:

Based upon [REDACTED] AUSA JOHN K. VINCENT and United States Attorney CHARLES J. STEVENS, Eastern District of California, Sacramento, felt that an investigation was warranted into the activities of subjects SORENSEN and ROBERTS for violations of extortion, money laundering, and attempted extortion. USA STEVENS concurred that utilizing a Nagra recorder in order to record conversations

[REDACTED]

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Administrative:

Based upon the [REDACTED] SAC, Sacramento authorized captioned investigation, on [REDACTED] and on [REDACTED] gave emergency authority to record conversations between [REDACTED] It should also be noted that FBIHQ gave Sacramento verbal telephonic authority to

[REDACTED]

LEADS

SACRAMENTO DIVISION

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AT CLOVIS, CALIFORNIA

Investigation continuing.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 4

Page 4 ~ b7C, b7D

Page 6 ~ b7C, b7D

Page 7 ~ b7C, b7D

Page 9 ~ b7C, b7D

To: Director, FBI ( )  
Attn: CID, PCU, SSA [redacted] Section

Date: 3/24/94

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From: SAC, SACRAMENTO (194B-SC-23790) (P)

Title: LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, COUNCILMAN,  
CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL,  
CLOVIS, CA; JEFFREY T. ROBERTS, dba-  
JEFFREY T. ROBERTS, PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT SERVICE, FRESNO, CA;  
WILLIAM TATHAM, JR - VICTIM; CSLPO -  
LOCAL LEVEL; OO: SC

**Notification of SAC Authority Granted  
for Emergency Use  
of Consensual Monitoring Equipment (Nontelephonic)**

Form must be submitted within 5 working days of the date  
authorization was granted.

1. Reason for Proposed Use: (Check) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corroborate Testimony <input type="checkbox"/> Protect Consenting Party <input type="checkbox"/> Protect Government Property <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ b7C		2. Type of Equipment: (Check) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transmitter/Receiver <input type="checkbox"/> Microphone/Amplifier <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concealed Recorder <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	
3. Consenting Party (Check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Nonconfidential Party <input type="checkbox"/> Confidential Source (Name) _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooperative Witness		4. Interceptee(s): (Include Title if Public Official) [redacted]	
5. Duration of proposed use: (Not to exceed 30 days) Date Authorized: [redacted] Expiration Date: [redacted]		6. Installation of Equipment: (Check) <input type="checkbox"/> Concealed on Person <input type="checkbox"/> In Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> In Motel Room <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	
7. Location where equipment will be utilized: (City and State) Clovis, California			
8. The following requirements have been fulfilled: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. Consenting party has agreed to testify. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b. Consenting party has executed consent form. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c. Recording/transmitting device will only be activated when consenting party is present.		9. Government attorney in judicial district where interception will take place foresees no entrapment and concurs in the use of this technique being appropriate. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No    Date [redacted] Identity of Gov't Atty. CHARLES J. STEVENS, USA Judicial District EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SC PLA CONCURS WITH USE	
10. Violation(s): Title(s) 18 Sec(s) 1951 U.S.C.			
11. DOJ notification required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No    If "Yes" check reason below: <input type="checkbox"/> Interception relates to an investigation of a member of Congress, a Federal judge, member of the Executive Branch at Executive Level IV or above, or a person who has served in such capacity within the previous 2 years. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interception relates to an investigation of any public official and the offense investigated is one involving bribery, conflict of interest, or extortion relating to the performance of his/her official duties. <input type="checkbox"/> Interception relates to an investigation of a Federal law enforcement official. <input type="checkbox"/> Consenting/nonconsenting person is a member of the diplomatic corps of a foreign country. <input type="checkbox"/> Consenting/nonconsenting person is or has been a member of the Witness Security Program and that fact is known to the agency involved or its officers. <input type="checkbox"/> Consenting/nonconsenting person is in the custody of the Bureau of Prisons or the U.S. Marshals Service. <input type="checkbox"/> Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Associate Attorney General, Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division, or the U.S. Attorney in the district where an investigation is being conducted has requested the investigating agency to obtain prior written consent for making a consensual interception in a specific investigation.			

## 12. Synopsis of Case: (Attach additional page if necessary)

[redacted]

[redacted]

## 13. Justification statement necessitating emergency authorization:

See attached page

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<input type="checkbox"/> 14. (SAC)	Signature [redacted]	Date 3-28-94
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 15. To be executed at FBIHQ (Unit Chief)	Signature [redacted]	Date 4/19/94
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 16. To be executed at FBIHQ (Section Chief)	Signature [redacted]	Date 4/19/94
<input type="checkbox"/> 17. To be executed at FBIHQ (LCD)	(Complete only if DOJ notification is necessary)	
Signature _____	Date _____	

2 - Bureau (Substantive Desk)

COPY 1

FBI/DOJ

FD-759

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12. SYNOPSIS OF CASE (Continued)

13. JUSTIFICATION STATEMENT NECESSITATING EMERGENCY  
AUTHORIZATION

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Office of Enforcement Operations  
Criminal Division

April 19, 1994

Director, FBI

LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, COUNCILMAN, CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL,  
CLOVIS, CA; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC  
OFFICIALS - LOCAL LEVEL

Enclosed is a copy of a communication which furnishes  
information concerning a current investigation.

✓ Pursuant to the Attorney's General's Memorandum of  
November 7, 1983, captioned "Procedures for Lawful,  
Warrantless Interceptions of Verbal Communications,"  
addressed to the Heads and Inspectors General of  
Executive Departments and Agencies, the following  
notification/request is being made relative to the  
authorization to utilize an electronic device to  
monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations  
with the consent of a party.

Pursuant to Attorney General's Order Number  
985-82, dated August 6, 1982, captioned "Delegation of  
Authority to Authorize Television Surveillance," the  
following notification/request is being made relative  
to the authorization to utilize Closed Circuit  
Television (CCTV) surveillance in connection with  
captioned matter.

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- ✓ 1. Emergency authority to utilize an electronic  
device to record private non-telephonic  
conversations with the consent of a party was  
granted by an appropriate FBI official on  
[REDACTED], for 30 days ending  
[REDACTED]. Exigent circumstances  
precluded a request for authorization in  
advance.
2. Emergency authorization to utilize Closed  
Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance in  
connection with captioned matter was granted  
by appropriate FBI official on \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, for 30 days ending \_\_\_\_\_.  
Exigent circumstances precluded a request for  
authorization in advance.

Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adm. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Crim. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Insp. \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Lab. \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Rec. Mgnt. \_\_\_\_\_  
Tech. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Affs. Off. \_\_\_\_\_  
of EEO \_\_\_\_\_  
Liaison & \_\_\_\_\_  
Int. Affs. \_\_\_\_\_  
of Public Affs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☐

SKY:dah (5)

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1 - Elsur Index, IMD

194B-SC-23790-3

hand carry  
CEO  
4/20/94  
sun

Return to  
b/m 3841

Memorandum from Director, FBI to Office of Enforcement Operations  
RE: LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, COUNCILMAN, CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL,  
CLOVIS, CA; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICIALS -  
LOCAL LEVEL

- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. As further utilization of an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party is expected in this matter, it is requested that you approve the use of this equipment for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. As further use of CCTV is expected in this matter, it is requested that your office approve the use of this equipment for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Non-emergency authorization is requested for the utilization of an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Non-emergency authorization is requested for the utilization of CCTV surveillance for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.

The use of these electronic devices in this case is being recommended in the best interest of effective law enforcement in that they are expected to provide corroborative evidence and/or protect the individual(s) utilizing the equipment.

The use of CCTV will not involve any trespass and it will be utilized only when a consenting party is present. The CCTV will be under the care, custody and control of the FBI.

Enclosure

APPROVED:	Adm. Servs. _____	Inspection _____	Off. of EEO Affs. _____
	Crim. Inv. <u>LAPK</u>	Intell. _____	Off. of Liaison _____
Director _____	Crim. Jux. Info. _____	Laboratory _____	& Int. Affs. _____
Dep. Dir. _____	Servs. _____	Legal Coun. _____	Off. of Public _____
ADD-Adm. _____	Ident. _____	Tech. Servs. _____	& Cong. Affs. _____
ADD-Inv. _____	Info. Mgmt. _____	Training _____	TQM Off. _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
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Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 2

Page 1 ~ Duplicate

Page 2 ~ Duplicate



**INFORMATION COMMUNICATION**

Date: 4/26/94

**FROM:** Criminal Investigative Division  
Public Corruption/Civil Rights Section

**CONTACT:** SSA [REDACTED]

b7C

**TO:** Sacramento (194B-SC-23790) (Encl. 3)  
Elsur Coordinator  
Information Management Division (Encl. 1)  
Elsur Unit

**TITLE:** LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, COUNCILMAN, CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL,  
CLOVIS, CA; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC  
OFFICIALS - LOCAL LEVEL; 00: SACRAMENTO

**RE:** Sacramento FD-759 dated 3/24/94

**ENCL:** Department of Justice memorandum dated 4/19/94

b7D

**PURPOSE(S):** To advise the Sacramento Division of notification  
to the DOJ for consensual monitoring beginning [REDACTED]

**DETAILS:** Enclosed are two copies of a memorandum from the  
Director to the Office of Enforcement Operations (OEO), Criminal  
Division, U.S. Department of Justice, upon which OEO was apprised  
of the use of a transmitting and/or recording device which  
authorization was granted by the SAC due to exigent  
circumstances. This authority is for a 30 day period commencing  
[REDACTED]

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You are to submit an FD-621 within 30 days of the  
expiration of this authorization furnishing information regarding  
use of the equipment in accordance with MIOG, Part II, Section  
10-10.3(9).

In the event a renewal of this authorization is  
deemed warranted, submit your request with full justification at  
least seven days prior to the expiration of the existing  
authorization, in compliance with MIOG, Part II, Section  
10-10.3(9).

**APPROVED:**

Director

Deputy Director

Crim. Inv.

Crim. Jus. Info.

Servs.

Finance

Info. Res.

Inspection

Laboratory

Legal Counsel

National Sec.

Personnel

Training

Off. of EEO

Affairs

Off. of Public

& Cong. Affs.

1 - File # (194B-SC-23790)  
1 - Working Copy  
SKY:deh (6)

194B-SC-23790-4

194B-SC-23790-4



# Memorandum



To : Office of Enforcement Operations Date: April 19, 1994  
Criminal Division

From : Director, FBI

Subject : LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, COUNCILMAN, CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL,  
CLOVIS, CA; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC  
OFFICIALS - LOCAL LEVEL

Enclosed is a copy of a communication which furnishes information concerning a current investigation.

✓ Pursuant to the Attorney's General's Memorandum of November 7, 1983, captioned "Procedures for Lawful, Warrantless Interceptions of Verbal Communications," addressed to the Heads and Inspectors General of Executive Departments and Agencies, the following notification/request is being made relative to the authorization to utilize an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party.

Pursuant to Attorney General's Order Number 985-82, dated August 6, 1982, captioned "Delegation of Authority to Authorize Television Surveillance," the following notification/request is being made relative to the authorization to utilize Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance in connection with captioned matter.

✓ 1. Emergency authority to utilize an electronic device to record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party was granted by an appropriate FBI official [redacted], for 30 days ending b7D. Exigent circumstances precluded a request for authorization in advance.

2. Emergency authorization to utilize Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance in connection with captioned matter was granted by appropriate FBI official on                     , for 30 days ending                     .

Exigent circumstances precluded a request for authorization in advance.

Approved:

(Pursuant to the Authority of the  
Attorney General 11-7-83)

Maureen N. Killian  
Maureen Killian  
Associate Director  
Office of Enforcement Operations

Date: APR 21 1994

Petty  
to  
AM 2841

Memorandum from Director, FBI to Office of Enforcement Operations  
RE: LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, COUNCILMAN, CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL,  
CLOVIS, CA; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICIALS -  
LOCAL LEVEL

- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. As further utilization of an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party is expected in this matter, it is requested that you approve the use of this equipment for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. As further use of CCTV is expected in this matter, it is requested that your office approve the use of this equipment for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Non-emergency authorization is requested for the utilization of an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Non-emergency authorization is requested for the utilization of CCTV surveillance for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.

The use of these electronic devices in this case is being recommended in the best interest of effective law enforcement in that they are expected to provide corroborative evidence and/or protect the individual(s) utilizing the equipment.

The use of CCTV will not involve any trespass and it will be utilized only when a consenting party is present. The CCTV will be under the care, custody and control of the FBI.

Enclosure

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype  
☐ Facsimile  
☒ AIRTEL

## PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ UNCLAS E F T O  
☐ UNCLAS

Date 6/23/94

TO *RHR/DOJ*: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 (ATTN: SSA ) b7C

FROM : SAC, SACRAMENTO (194B-SC-23790) (P)

SUBJECT : LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, COUNCILMAN,  
 CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL, CLOVIS, CA;  
 JEFFREY T. ROBERTS, dba -  
 JEFFREY T. ROBERTS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE  
 FRESNO, CA;  
 WILLIAM WATHAM, JR. - VICTIM;  
 CSLPO - LOCAL LEVEL;  
 OO: SC

Re SC airtel to the Director, dated 3/24/94.

Enclosed for the Bureau is an original and four  
 copies of a self-explanatory LHM, captioned as above.

LEAD:SACRAMENTO DIVISIONAT CLOVIS, CA:

Investigation continuing.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 5)  
 2 - Sacramento  
 JJW/hs  
 (4)

2 COPIES TO DOJ/PIS  
 1 COPIES TO WCCS, RM 3849  
 DATE: 7-1-94 BY: *D*  
 1\*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Number) (Time)



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825

June 22, 1994

LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, COUNCILMAN,  
CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL, CLOVIS, CALIFORNIA;  
JEFFREY T. ROBERTS, DOING BUSINESS AS -  
JEFFREY T. ROBERTS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE,  
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA;  
WILLIAM TATHAM, JR. - VICTIM;  
CORRUPTION OF STATE & LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICIALS - LOCAL LEVEL

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pp 2, 7, 8*

For the information of FBIHQ. on March 16, 1994.

[redacted] b7C  
[redacted] California, telephonically contacted b7D  
Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) JOHN K. VINCENT and  
Special Agent (SA) [redacted] Sacramento Division, and  
[redacted] within the Eastern District of California  
(EDC), and territory of the Sacramento Divis [redacted]

[redacted]

Upon receipt of the aforementioned [redacted] b7C  
examination of its content, CHARLES STEVENS, United States b7D  
Attorney, EDC, Sacramento, [redacted]  
[redacted]

[redacted]

194B-SC-23790-5

LEIF CURTIS SORSENSEN; ET AL

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[REDACTED]

because the development featured more lots than permitted.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] map approval with the Clovis City Planning Commission and City Council. In accordance with their strategy, [REDACTED]

b7C

b7D

[REDACTED] September 7th City Council hearing, SORENSEN led the effort to convince fellow City Council members to approve amending the city's general plan [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The City Council agreed in principle to his proposal and in a 4-1 vote, approved a 152 lot development. Councilman PAT WINN was the dissenting vote against the amendment. The next step called for a modified map to be drawn concerning the 152 lots, utilizing staff in the Clovis' City Planning Department.

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On January 3, 1994, after the modified map had been approved by the Clovis City Planning Commission, the City Council again met [REDACTED]

LEIF CURTIS SORSENSEN; ET AL



United States Attorney's Opinion:

It should be noted based upon initial information [redacted] AUSA JOHN K. VINCENT and United States Attorney CHARLES J. STEVENS, Eastern District of California, Sacramento, felt that an investigation was warranted into the activities of subjects SORESENSEN and ROBERTS for violations of extortion, money laundering, and attempted extortion. USA STEVENS concurred that utilizing a recorder in order to record

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Recent Investigation:



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LEIF CURTIS SORSENSEN; ET AL

thereafter purchased the campaign material on behalf of the pro-growth candidates for the upcoming April 12 election.--

Examination of campaign disclosure records filed with the California Secretary of State's Office reflects neither candidate declared receiving the "in kind" contributions, violating California's Fair Political Practices Act of 1974. As noted above, [REDACTED] D&M SPECIALTY ADVERTISING, INC., in order to help insure that the pro-growth candidates won in the upcoming April 12 Clovis City election.

Intelligence information developed by the investigating agent indicates subject [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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at getting pro-growth candidates elected to the city council.

Because information had been developed indicating another development company known as KAUFMAN AND BROAD (K&B),

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] about the incident. Resulting negotiations with representatives of the U.S. Attorney's Office, Sacramento, and lawyers representing K&B,

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

take his Fifth Amendment right not to incriminate himself and not





FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
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No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 6

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AIRTEL

## Federal Bureau of Investigation

From: SAC, SACRAMENTO (194B-SC-23700)<sup>23790</sup>

Date: 6/3/94

To: DIRECTOR, FBI  
ATTN: ELSUR INDEXSubject: LEIF CURTIS SORENSON, COUNCILMAN,  
CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL, CLOVIS, CA;  
JEFFREY T. ROBERTS, dba-  
JEFFREY T. ROBERTS, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICE, FRESNO, CA;

b7C

[REDACTED] - VICTIM; CSLPO  
LOCAL LEVEL; OO: SACRAMENTO☒ XX Emergency Authority. Re SACRAMENTO FD-759 to FBIHQ  
dated 3/24/94 captioned as above.☐ Routine Authority. Re \_\_\_\_\_ to FBIHQ  
dated \_\_\_\_\_ and Bu \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
dated \_\_\_\_\_ captioned as above.

NOTE: If no confirming communication received from FBIHQ in  
response to your request for routine use of a nontelephonic consensual  
monitoring device, mark below:

☐ No confirming communication received from FBIHQ to date.

The following information relates to the use of the equipment:

☒ XX Its use provided information which corroborated or  
assisted in corroborating the allegation or suspicion.  
☐ It was used, but no information of value was obtained.  
☐ It was not used.  
(Only one of the above applies)

Complete and submit within 30 days of expiration of **each** and **every**  
period of authorization granted for nontelephonic consensual monitoring  
by either SAC, DOJ or FBIHQ - CID (whether an initial or a subsequent  
authorization), and for each extension or renewal thereof.

Transmit to FBIHQ in a sealed brown envelope labeled "Director,  
FBI, ELSUR Index, FBIHQ."

② Bureau  
2- 194B-SC-23700  
1- 66-682(Field Office Elsur Case Sub File)  
(ELSUR control file)GMS/gms  
(5)

194BSC-23790-5X

402

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 07/28/1995

✓ To: DIRECTOR, FBI

Attn: Public Corruption Unit

From: Sacramento  
Squad 7

Contact: SA [REDACTED]

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: JJW:bjp

File Number(s): 194B-SC-23790 (Pending)

Title:

**"CHANGED"**  
LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, COUNCILMAN,  
CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL, CLOVIS, CA;  
DAVID BILL TURNER, TREASURER,  
DOING BUSINESS AS COMMITTEE TO ELECT LEIF SORENSEN;  
GLYNN LAFAYETTE BRYANT, COUNCILMAN,  
CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL, CLOVIS, CA;  
CHARLES DAVID LAWSON, FORMER CLOVIS CITY MAYOR;  
SHIRLEY JEAN INGALLS, FORMER CLOVIS COUNCILWOMAN CANDIDATE;  
GLENDA JEAN LOWE, FORMER CLOVIS CITY COUNCILWOMAN CANDIDATE;  
JEFFREY THOMAS ROBERTS, DOING BUSINESS AS -  
JEFFREY T. ROBERTS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICES, FRESNO, CA.;  
TINA JILL COX;  
JACK LLOYD WILLIAMS;  
DAVID MICHAEL WILLIAMS; BOTH DOING BUSINESS AS -  
CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL LAND SALES, INC.,  
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA;  
DAVID ROBERT MILUTINOVICH;  
PATRICK ROBERT FORTUNE, DOING BUSINESS AS -  
PJNR, INC., FOAM LTD. AND FARCO LIMITED, ALL FRESNO, CA;  
GERALD MARVIN HAMEL, ALSO KNOWN AS -  
JERRY HAMEL; ALYCE FAYE YEAROUT; ALL DOING BUSINESS AS -  
WILLIAMSBURG MANOR INC., CLOVIS, CA,  
AMERICAN SPORTS CORPORATION (ASC), RENO, NV,  
DOVER HILL DEVELOPMENT,  
HAMEL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,  
HAMEL FAMILY TRUST,  
OVERSEAS RESOURCES LIMITED,  
STERLING PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, INC., AND  
AET, INCORPORATED, ALL FRESNO, CA;  
GRANT LEE BYBEE; DIANE B. BYBEE; BOTH DOING BUSINESS AS -  
THE BYBEE FAMILY TRUST,

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(03/31/95)

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

To: DIRECTOR, FBI From: Sacramento

Re: 194B-SC-23790, 07/28/1995

KENNETH GARY CRABTREE, DOING BUSINESS AS -  
R.J. HILL COMPANY, FRESNO, CA;  
VICKI LEA MYLLER;  
DUFF LELAND BRYANT;  
JOHN BONADELLE, SR;  
JOHN ALBERT BONADELLE, JR; BOTH DOING BUSINESS AS -  
LAND DYNAMICS AND WEST CAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY,  
FRESNO, CA; RODNEY JOHN DELUCA;  
ROBERT ALAN MCCAFFREY, DOING BUSINESS AS -  
MCCAFFREY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, FRESNO, CA;  
GARY LARKIN McDONALD, DOING BUSINESS AS -  
GARY L. McDONALD/CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, FRESNO, CA;  
CRAIG MURPHY SCHARTON, FORMER FRESNO CITY COUNCILMAN;  
JON CARLSON THOMASON, DOING BUSINESS AS -  
THOMASON INVESTMENTS AND THOMASON DEVELOPMENT, FRESNO, CA;  
JAMES WILLIAM LOGAN, DBA LOGAN AND ASSOCIATES; FRESNO, CA;  
ROBERT CHARLES LUNG, COUNCILMAN, b7C  
FRESNO CITY COUNCIL, FRESNO, CA;  
[REDACTED] FORMER FRESNO CITY COUNCILMAN;  
[REDACTED] FORMER FRESNO CITY COUNCILWOMAN; b7C  
[REDACTED] - VICTIM;  
CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICIALS - LOCAL LEVEL;

**Synopsis:** Request Bureau to authorize code name as noted. On 6/30/95, subject Jeffrey Thomas Roberts pled guilty before United States District Court Judge Oliver Wanger, Eastern District of California (EDC), Fresno, to an Information charging him with Aiding and Abetting Extortion, and Subscribing to a False Tax Return, in violation of Title 18, USC, Section 1951, and Title 26, USC, Section 7206 (1) in exchange for a prison sentence ranging between 24 - 30 months. Sentencing scheduled 10/2/95. On 8/1/95, Charles Stevens, United States Attorney, and Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) John K. Vincent expect to request Federal Grand Jury (FGJ), EDC, Sacramento, to return true bill charging subjects Leif Curtis Sorensen, Jack Lloyd Williams, David Michael Williams, David Robert Milutinovich, Kenneth Gary Crabtree, and Patrick Robert Fortune with a variety of criminal charges including violations of the RICO, Money Laundering, Bribery, Obstruction of Justice, Hobbs Act, Extortion, Conspiracy to obstruct Justice and Subscribing to a False Tax Return, all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 371, 666, 1503, 1623, 1951, 1956, 1962 (c), and Title 26, United States Code, Section 7206 (1). Additional indictments will be forthcoming.

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

To: DIRECTOR, FBI From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 07/28/1995

**Previous Title:** Title marked "Changed" in order to identify TURNER, both BRYANTS, LAWSON, LOWE, INGALLS, COX, both WILLIAMS, MILUTINOVICH, FORTUNE, HAMEL, both BYBEES, YEAROUT, CRABTREE, MILLER, both BONADELLES, [REDACTED] MCCAFFREY, MCDONALD, [REDACTED] THOMASON, LOGAN, LUNG, SMITH and [REDACTED] as subjects in this investigation. Title previously carried, "LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, COUNCILMAN, CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL, CLOVIS, CA; JEFFREY T. ROBERTS, DOING BUSINESS AS JEFFREY T. ROBERTS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, FRESNO, CA; [REDACTED] - VICTIM; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICIALS - LOCAL LEVEL; OO: SACRAMENTO.

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**Reference:** Sacramento airtel to the Director, 6/23/94.

**Enclosures:** Original LHM plus four copies captioned as above.

**Details:** As noted with respect to captioned title, Sacramento requests "code" name due to the number of subjects and entities involved. Accordingly, Sacramento suggests either of the following names:

1. REZONE
2. PAY DAY
3. WILD WEST

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As noted in the aforementioned synopsis, subject

[REDACTED]  
Investigation. FSG, EDC, Sacramento, expected to return indictment, 8/1/95, charging six subjects as noted. Additional indictments forthcoming as reflected in self explanatory enclosed LHM.

**Request of FBIHQ:** Request code name as noted.

**Lead:**

Sacramento Division

Sacramento, California:

Investigation continuing.



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No. 194B-SC-23790

Sacramento, CA 95825

July 28, 1995

CHANGED;  
LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, COUNCILMAN,  
CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL, CLOVIS, CA;  
DAVID BILL TURNER, TREASURER,  
DOING BUSINESS AS - COMMITTEE TO ELECT LEIF SORENSEN;  
GLYNN LAFAYETTE BRYANT, COUNCILMAN,  
CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL, CLOVIS, CA;  
CHARLES DAVID LAWSON, FORMER CLOVIS CITY MAYOR;  
SHIRLEY JEAN INGALLS, FORMER CLOVIS COUNCILWOMAN CANDIDATE;  
GLENDA JEAN LOWE, FORMER CLOVIS CITY COUNCILWOMAN CANDIDATE;  
JEFFREY THOMAS ROBERTS, DOING BUSINESS AS -  
JEFFREY T. ROBERTS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICES, FRESNO, CA.;

[REDACTED]  
JACK LLOYD WILLIAMS,  
DAVID MICHAEL WILLIAMS, BOTH DOING BUSINESS AS -  
CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL LAND SALES, INC.,  
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA;  
DAVID ROBERT MILUTINOVICH;  
PATRICK ROBERT FORTUNE, DOING BUSINESS AS -  
PJNR, INC., FOAM LTD. AND FARCO LIMITED, ALL FRESNO, CA;  
GERALD MARVIN HAMEL, ALSO KNOWN AS -  
JERRY HAMEL; [REDACTED] BOTH DOING BUSINESS AS -  
WILLIAMSBURG MANOR INC., CLOVIS, CA,  
AMERICAN SPORTS CORPORATION (ASC), RENO, NV,  
DOVER HILL DEVELOPMENT,  
HAMEL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,  
HAMEL FAMILY TRUST,  
OVERSEAS RESOURCES LIMITED,  
STERLING PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, INC., AND  
AET, INCORPORATED, ALL FRESNO, CA;  
GRANT LEE BYBEE; [REDACTED] BOTH DOING BUSINESS AS -  
THE BYBEE FAMILY TRUST,  
KENNETH GARY CRABTREE, DOING BUSINESS AS -  
R.J. HILL COMPANY, FRESNO, CA;

[REDACTED]  
JOHN ALBERT BONADELLE, JR; DOING BUSINESS AS -  
LAND DYNAMICS AND WEST CAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY,  
FRESNO, CA; RODNEY JOHN DELUCA;  
[REDACTED] DOING BUSINESS AS -  
MCCAFFREY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, FRESNO, CA;

*Index  
pp 18-26  
r*

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194B-SC-23790-7

[REDACTED] DOING BUSINESS AS -  
GARY L. MCDONALD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, FRESNO, CA;  
[REDACTED] FORMER FRESNO CITY COUNCILMAN, b7C  
[REDACTED]; DOING BUSINESS AS -  
THOMASON INVESTMENTS AND THOMASON DEVELOPMENT, FRESNO, CA;  
JAMES WILLIAM LOGAN, DBA LOGAN AND ASSOCIATES; FRESNO, CA; b7C  
ROBERT CHARLES LUNG, COUNCILMAN,  
FRESNO CITY COUNCIL, FRESNO, CA;  
[REDACTED] FORMER FRESNO CITY COUNCILMAN; b7C  
[REDACTED] FORMER FRESNO CITY COUNCILWOMAN;  
[REDACTED] - VICTIM;  
CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICIALS - LOCAL LEVEL; b7C

Title marked "Changed" in order to identify TURNER, both BRYANTS, LAWSON, LOWE, INGALLS, COX, both WILLIAMS, MILUTINOVICH, FORTUNE, HAMEL, both BYBEES, YEAROUT, CRABTREE, MILLER, both BONADELLES, [REDACTED] MCCAFFREY, MCDONALD, [REDACTED] THOMASON, LOGAN, LUNG, [REDACTED] as subjects in this investigation. Title previously carried, "LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, COUNCILMAN, CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL, CLOVIS, CA; JEFFREY T. ROBERTS, DOING BUSINESS AS JEFFREY T. ROBERTS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, FRESNO, CA; [REDACTED], - VICTIM; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICIALS - LOCAL LEVEL; OO: SACRAMENTO. b7C b7D



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b7D

b7C  
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Because subsequent events precluded further use of [redacted] on 3/19/94, an "overt" investigation commenced to include the use of the Federal Grand Jury (FGJ), Eastern District of California (EDC), Sacramento, and later the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). As a result, to date, more than 380 subpoenas have been issued requesting records from various financial institutions, entities, and individuals, spanning a period from 1990 to the present. As noted with respect to captioned title, evidence collected to date suggests a rather large conspiracy existed to corruptly place and/or keep only pro-growth candidates on the Clovis City Council. Various developers sought to capitalize on same by buying large amounts of farm land, and then "rezoning" same to residential or commercial property by paying "bribes and/or extortion fees" to city officials, thereby escalating the properties' value and realizing huge profits. In fact, subject

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[redacted] Clovis City Council, and possibly other outlying areas. Since no one is

[redacted]  
historical nature, with numerous documentary evidence indicating widespread criminality.

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It should be noted that shortly after Sacramento's investigation went from a "covert" status to an "overt"

investigation, immediate steps were undertaken to interfere and obstruct the investigation. As an example, on 3/17/94, after

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Investigation has determined that many of the captioned subjects at one point in time or another have declared



 was advised that the U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of California, was interested in prosecuting



deductions. The IRS is expected to bring charges in conjunction with charges for which the FBI has jurisdiction.



business as WILLIAMSBURG MANOR, INC., to purchase a Time

[REDACTED]

WILLIAMSBURG MANOR project was under consideration by the Clovis City Council for development.

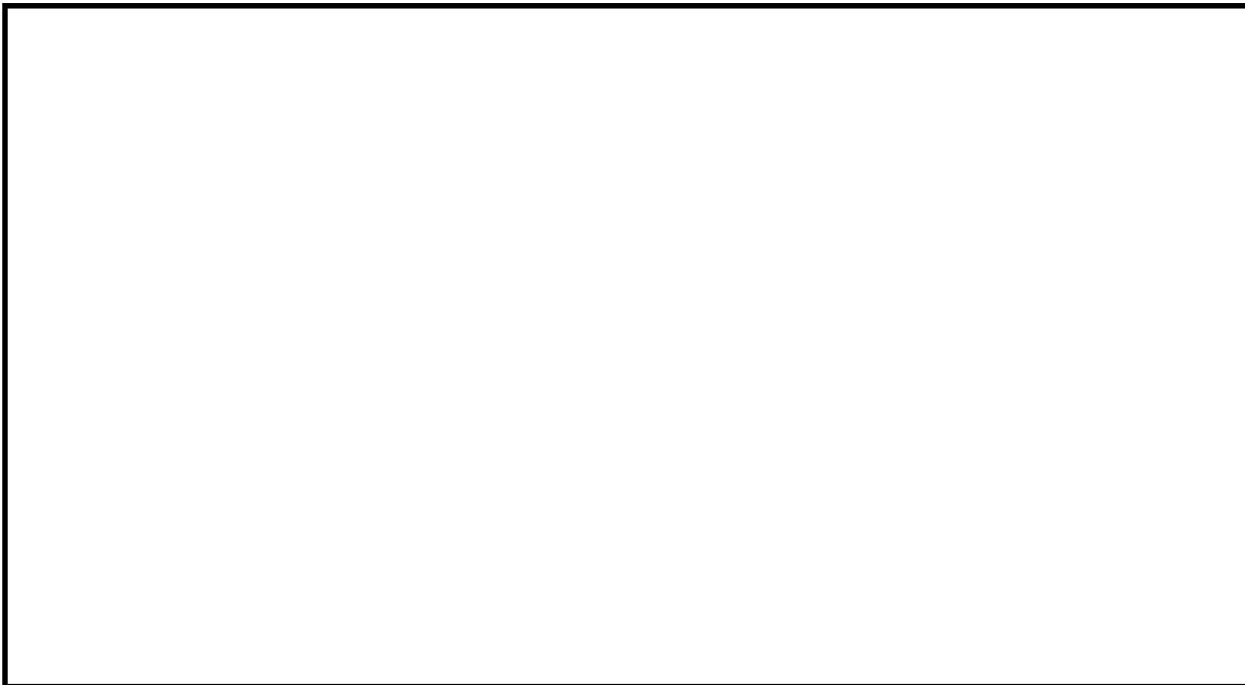
[REDACTED]

b7C

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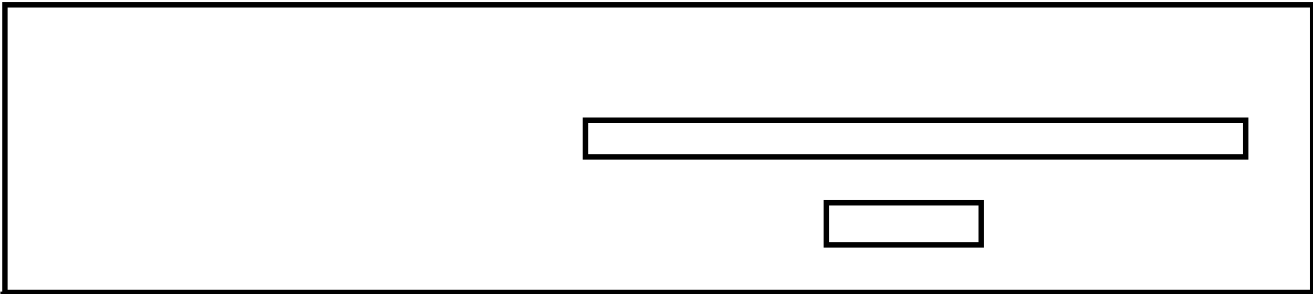
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With respect to official action being considered by the Clovis City Council, on 8/31/92, in a 3-2 vote for approval, a change in land use designation was allowed for a project being developed by PAT FORTUNE and JERRY HAMEL. In the actual vote concerning General Plan Amendment (GPA) 92-5, Mayor LAWSON and Council members BRYANT and SQUIRESEN voted in favor with ARMSTRONG and WYNNE opposing same. b7C b7D





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With respect to Fresno City Councilman ROBERT  
CHARLES LUNG, who filed election papers in November, 1992,  
winning the election in March, 1993. LUNG assumed the position  
as a member of the Fresno City Council's 4th District, in May.

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Because captioned matter has become so involved, Sacramento has agreed with United States Attorney CHARLES J. STEVENS and AUSA JOHN K. VINCENT, EDC, Sacramento, that the sheer number of individuals involved in captioned matter mandate that the case be presented to the FGJ for indictment in several stages so that captioned matter could be manageable if any of the cases go to trial. Accordingly, Sacramento expects the first indictment to be returned on or about August 1, 1995, charging subjects Clovis City Councilman LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN, JACK LLOYD WILLIAMS, DAVID MICHAEL WILLIAMS, DAVID ROBERT MILUTINOVICH, KENNETH GARY CRABTREE, and PATRICK ROBERT FORTUNE with a variety of criminal charges including violations of the RICO, Money Laundering, Bribery, Obstruction, Hobbs Act-Extortion, Conspiracy to Obstruct Justice and Subscribing to a False Tax Return, all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 371, 666, 1503, 1623, 1951, 1956, 1962 (c) and Title 26, United States Code, 7206 (1).

On June 30, 1995, because of an agreement with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Sacramento, subject ROBERTS entered a "guilty" plea before U.S. District Court Judge (USDCJ) OLIVER WANGER, EDC, Fresno, California, having been charged earlier that day in an Information with Aiding and Abetting Extortion and Subscribing to a False Tax Return, in violation of Title 18, United States Code (USC), Section 1951, and Title 26, USC, Section 7206 (1). ROBERTS plea was in exchange for a prison sentence ranging from 24-30 months. ROBERTS is scheduled to be sentenced, on October 2, 1995, before USDCJ WANGER. Attached as an Exhibit is a copy of the "factual" basis, ROBERTS provided to the court outlining his guilt.

The following is a description re captioned subjects:

Name: LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN  
Sex: Male  
Race: White  
Date of birth: [REDACTED]  
Place of birth: Hanford, California  
Residence: [REDACTED] Clovis,  
[REDACTED] California  
Telephone number: [REDACTED]  
SSAN: [REDACTED]  
Occupation: Clovis City Councilman  
State Farm Insurance Agent  
Wife: [REDACTED]

b7C

Name: JEFFREY THOMAS ROBERTS  
Sex: Male  
Race: White  
Date of birth: [REDACTED]  
Place of birth: Burbank, California  
SSAN: [REDACTED]  
Residence: [REDACTED]  
Friant, California 93626  
Home telephone #: [REDACTED]  
Work telephone #: [REDACTED]  
Wife: [REDACTED]  
Occupation: Government Consultant

b7C

b7C

Name: JACK LLOYD WILLIAMS  
Sex: Male  
Race: White  
Date of birth: [REDACTED]  
SSAN: [REDACTED]  
Residence: [REDACTED]

Telephone number: [REDACTED]  
Common law wife: [REDACTED]  
Occupation: Real Estate Broker

Name: DAVID MICHAEL WILLIAMS  
Sex: Male  
Race: White  
Date of birth: [REDACTED]  
Place of birth: Fresno, California  
SSAN: [REDACTED]  
Residence: [REDACTED]

Telephone number: [REDACTED]  
Occupation: Real Estate Broker



Name: DAVID ROBERT MILUTINOVICH  
Sex: Male  
Race: White  
Date of birth: [REDACTED]  
Place of birth: San Diego, California  
SSAN: [REDACTED]  
California Driver's License number: [REDACTED]  
CII number: [REDACTED]  
Residence: [REDACTED]  
  
Telephone number: [REDACTED]  
Occupation: Restaurateur  
Wife: [REDACTED]  
(Date of birth: [REDACTED])  
(Place of birth: San Diego, California)  
Wife's work telephone #: [REDACTED]

Name: PATRICK ROBERT FORTUNE  
Race: White  
Sex: Male  
Date of birth: [REDACTED]  
Place of birth: Unknown  
SSAN: [REDACTED]  
Residence: [REDACTED]  
  
Telephone #: [REDACTED]  
Occupation: Developer  
Wife: [REDACTED]

Name: KENNETH GARY CRABTREE  
Race: White  
Sex: Male  
Date of birth: [REDACTED]  
Place of birth: Anselma, California  
SSAN: [REDACTED]  
CII#: [REDACTED]  
Residence: [REDACTED]  
  
Occupation: Consultant, Real Estate Development

b7C

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
SSAN:  
CII#:  
Residence:

[REDACTED]  
White  
Male

California Driver's  
License number:  
Occupation:

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
CII#:  
Residence:

G [REDACTED]  
W [REDACTED]  
M [REDACTED]  
D [REDACTED]  
M07060546  
522 Timmy, Clovis, California  
93612  
209/298-1630  
Clovis City Councilman  
Banker

b7C

Telephone #:  
Occupation:

Wife:

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
Place of birth:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
Residence:

CHARLES DAVID LAWSON  
White  
Male  
[REDACTED]  
Princeton, Kentucky

b7C

Home telephone number:  
Occupation:

[REDACTED]  
Former Mayor and Clovis  
City Councilman, manages  
physical facilities at Fresno  
State University

Telephone number:  
Wife:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Name:  
Alias:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
Residence:

Telephone number:  
Occupation:

Telephone number:  
Also:

Husband:

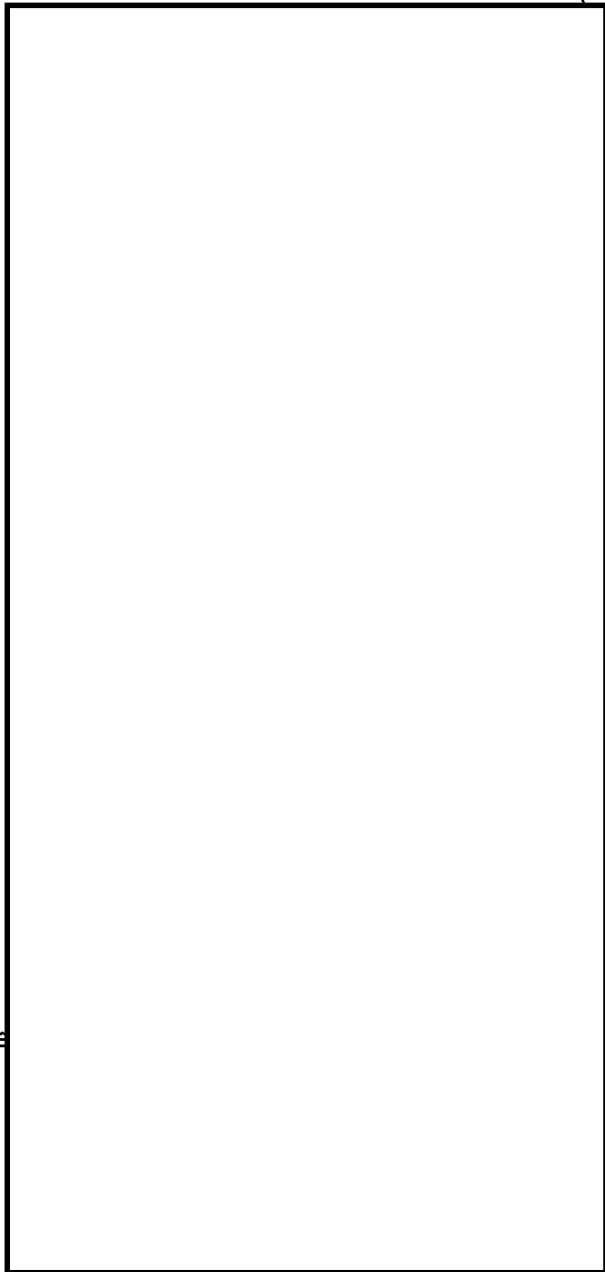
Name:  
Alias:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
SSAN:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
CII #:  
Residence:

Telephone number:  
Other telephone number:  
Occupation:

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
Residence:

Telephone number:  
Occupation:

Husband:



b7C

Name:  
Alias:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
SSAN:  
CII #:  
Residence:

GERALD MARVIN HAMEL  
Jerry Marvin Hamel  
White  
Male

Occupation:  
Wife:

Clovis, California 93611  
Developer

(Place of Birth: Globe,  
Arizona)

b7C

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
Place of birth:  
SSAN:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
Residence:

Telephone number:  
Work telephone number:

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:

GRANT LEE BYBEE  
White  
Male

Date of birth:  
Place of birth:  
SSAN:  
CII#:  
Residence:

Santa Monica, California

Clovis, California 93612

b7C

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
Husband:  
Residence:

Occupation:

Name:  
Alias:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
Place of birth:  
SSAN:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
Residence:

Telephone #:  
Occupation:  
Husband:

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
SSAN:  
Residence:

Occupation:

Wife:

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
Residence:

Occupation:

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
Residence:  
Occupation:

JOHN BONADELLE  
White  
Male

Fresno, California  
Real Estate Developer

White  
Male

Real Estate Developer

b7C

b7C

b7C

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
CII #:  
California Driver's  
License Number:  
Residence:

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
CII#:  
Residence:

Name:  
Alias:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
Place of birth:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
Residence:

Telephone number:  
Employment:

Telephone number:

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
Residence:

b7C

b7C

Name: [REDACTED]  
Race: White  
Sex: Male  
Date of birth: [REDACTED]  
California Driver's  
License number: [REDACTED]  
CII#: [REDACTED]  
SSAN: [REDACTED]  
FBI#: [REDACTED]  
Residence: Fresno, California 93711  
Occupation: Developer

Name: JAMES WILLIAM LOGAN  
Race: White  
Sex: Male  
Date of birth: [REDACTED]  
Place of birth: Visalia, California  
SSAN: [REDACTED]  
Occupation: Former Fresno City  
Council Member - b7C  
Government Consultant, dba  
LOGAN & ASSOCIATES,  
1396 W Herndon Avenue, #103,  
Fresno, California 93711

Telephone #(WK): [REDACTED]

Name: ROBERT CHARLES LUNG  
Race: White  
Sex: Male  
Date of birth: [REDACTED]  
Place of birth: Chicago, Illinois  
CII#: [REDACTED]  
SSAN: [REDACTED]  
Residence: [REDACTED]  
Fresno, California 93726  
Telephone number: [REDACTED]  
Occupation: Fresno City Councilman  
Wife: [REDACTED]

b7C

3 4 5 6

Name:  
Alias:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
California Driver's  
License number:  
SSAN:  
CII#:  
FBI#:  
Residence:

Telephone number:

Occupation:

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Date of birth:  
SSAN:  
California Driver's  
License Number:  
Residence:

Occupation:  
Husband:

b7C



The extortionate activity described herein affected interstate commerce.

Count Two

In or about April 1993, in the Eastern District of California, I, a resident of Friant, California, did willfully make and subscribe a 1992 tax return which was verified by a written declaration that it was made under the penalties of perjury and was filed with the Director, Internal Revenue Service Center at Fresno, California, which said tax return I did not believe to be true and correct as to every material matter in that the said return failed to report additional taxable income of approximately \$82,000, and overstated my business expenses by approximately \$29,000, as I then and there well knew and believed.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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To: Director, FBI (194B-SC-23790- )  
Attn: CID, Public Corruption

Section

Date: 8/3/95

From: SAC, Sacramento (194B-SC-23790 ) (P)

Title: REZONE

CSLPO - LOCAL LEVEL;  
OO: SACRAMENTO

**Notification of SAC Authority Granted  
for Emergency Use  
of Consensual Monitoring Equipment (Nontelephonic)**

Form must be submitted within 5 working days of the date  
authorization was granted.

*Leif Curtis Sorensen*

1. Reason for Proposed Use: (Check) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corroborate Testimony <input type="checkbox"/> Protect Consenting Party <input type="checkbox"/> Protect Government Property <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Collect evidence re: Obstruction</u>		2. Type of Equipment: (Check) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transmitter/Receiver <input type="checkbox"/> Microphone/Amplifier <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concealed Recorder <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	
3. Consenting Party (Check) <input type="checkbox"/> Nonconfidential Party _____ (Name) <input type="checkbox"/> Confidential Source <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooperative Witness		4. _____ Date of Birth: _____	
5. Duration of proposed use: (Not to exceed 30 days) Date Authorized: _____ Expiration Date: _____		6. Installation of Equipment: (Check) <input type="checkbox"/> Concealed on Person <input type="checkbox"/> In Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> In Motel Room <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	
7. Location where equipment will be utilized: (City and State) Fresno, California		8. The following requirements have been fulfilled: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. Consenting party has agreed to testify. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b. Consenting party has executed consent form. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c. Recording/transmitting device will only be activated when consenting party is present.	
9. Government attorney in judicial district where interception will take place foresees no entrapment and concurs in the use of this technique being appropriate. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No    Date: _____ Identity of Gov't Atty. <u>Charles Stevens, U.S. Attorney</u> Judicial District <u>EA Dist of CA, Sacramento, CA</u> <u>PLA, SACRAMENTO CONCURS</u>		10. Violation(s): Title(s) <u>18, U.S.C.</u> Sec(s) <u>1510</u> U.S.C.	
11. DOJ notification required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No    If "Yes" check reason below: <input type="checkbox"/> Interception relates to an investigation of a member of Congress, a Federal judge, member of the Executive Branch at Executive Level IV or above, or a person who has served in such capacity within the previous 2 years. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interception relates to an investigation of any public official and the offense investigated is one involving bribery, conflict of interest, or extortion relating to the performance of his/her official duties. <input type="checkbox"/> Interception relates to an investigation of a Federal law enforcement official. <input type="checkbox"/> Consenting/nonconsenting person is a member of the diplomatic corps of a foreign country. <input type="checkbox"/> Consenting/nonconsenting person is or has been a member of the Witness Security Program and that fact is known to the agency involved or its officers. <input type="checkbox"/> Consenting/nonconsenting person is in the custody of the Bureau of Prisons or the U.S. Marshals Service. <input type="checkbox"/> Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Associate Attorney General, Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division, or the U.S. Attorney in the district where an investigation is being conducted has requested the investigating agency to obtain prior written consent for making a consensual interception in a specific investigation.			

## 12. Synopsis of Case: (Attach additional page if necessary)

The aforementioned cooperating witness (CW) in debriefings with SC case Agent and

concerning captioned investigation and possibly suggest measures to obstruct the investigation.

## 13. Justification statement necessitating emergency authorization:

## Emergency use approval

<input type="checkbox"/> 14. (SAC) _____	Verbal, 7/31/95
Signature <u>Richard H. Ross</u>	Date <u>8-7-95</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> 15. To be executed at FBIHQ (Unit Chief) _____	
Signature _____	Date <u>8/14/95</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> 16. To be executed at FBIHQ (Section Chief) _____	
Signature <u>Iron W. Breake Jr.</u>	Date <u>8/14/95</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> 17. To be executed at FBIHQ (LCD) _____	
(Complete only if DOJ notification is necessary)	
Signature _____	Date _____

2- Bureau (Substantive Desk)

COPY 1

FBI/DOJ

HQGI02XD

PG-1

FULL RESPONSE  
SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

08/28/95

NAME REZONE

DDN

TRUE

VIOL FAKE  
RESUB STOP STOP STOP  
VICTIM

N 998 R 998 TN TR

FO-FILE-NO

SEX X RACE X SUM30DT 19950801 ENTRY 19950801 MODIFIED  
ID DOB POB  
MISC SERVICE UNIT REQUEST - POSSIBLE CODEWORD USE REQUESTED BY

ADDRESS-NO STREET  
CITY ST/PV COUNTRY ZIP  
LOC

ENT-DATE MAIN/REFERENCE 0  
FILE-NO 555 HQ-5555555 SERIAL

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

ENTER-PF1---PF2---PF3---PF4---PF5---PF6---PF7---PF8---PF9---PF10--PF11--PF12--

HQGI02XD

PG-2

FULL RESPONSE  
SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

08/28/95

NAME REZONE  
FILE-NO 555 HQ-5555555

N 998 R 998

ID DOB POB

ADDRESS-NO STREET ST/PV COUNTRY ZIP  
CITY  
ADDRESS-NO STREET ST/PV COUNTRY ZIP  
CITY

M SERVICE UNIT REQUEST - POSSIBLE CODEWORD USE REQUESTED BY  
I [ ] RM 3149 EXT [ ] #58

b7C

S  
C  
S

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

ENTER-PF1---PF2---PF3---PF4---PF5---PF6---PF7---PF8---PF9---PF10--PF11--PF12--

(03/31/95)

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Precedence:** ROUTINE

**Date:** 08/09/1995

**To:** Director, FBI

**Attn:** Public Corruption Unit  
SSA [redacted]

**From:** Sacramento  
Squad 7

**Contact:** SA [redacted]

**Approved By:** [redacted]

**Drafted By:** JJW:bjp

**File Number(s):** 194B-SC-23790 (Pending)

b7C

**Title:** REZONE, CSLPO - LOCAL LEVEL; OO: SACRAMENTO

**Synopsis:** To date, one subject has pled guilty to Hobbs Act - Extortion and Subscribing to a False Tax Return in exchange for a prison sentence ranging from 24 to 30 months and is now cooperating. On 8/1/95, six more subjects were indicted and charged with a variety of criminal charges including violations of the RICO, Money Laundering, Hobbs Act - Extortion, Obstruction of Justice, Perjury, and Witness Tampering Statutes. It is expected phase 3 of this investigation will be concluded in approximately two months, resulting in eight to eleven subjects being indicted on similar charges concerning their dealings with members of the Clovis City Council or criminal actions as members. Phase 4 of the investigation will concern members or former members of the Fresno City Council (not Clovis), where it is expected one current City Councilman and possibly three former City Council Persons will be indicted on violations of the RICO, Hobbs Act - Extortion, and Money Laundering related charges. It is also expected several Fresno developers will be included in the indictments. Phase 5 is yet to be determined.

**Reference:** Sacramento "fax" to FBIHQ, dated 7/31/95.

**Details:** Captioned matter pertains to land owners, developers, and city officials "cashing in" on land deals involving the acquisition of farm land in the San Joaquin Valley area and thereafter "rezoning" same, reaping huge profits as a result of the rezoning. On 6/30/95, Jeffrey Thomas Roberts pled guilty to one count violation of the Hobbs Act - Extortion Statute and one



(03/31/95)

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

To: Director, FBI From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 08/09/1995

b7C

b7D

count Subscribing to a False Tax Return in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951 and Title 26, United States Code, Section 7206. United States District Court Judge Oliver Wanger, Eastern District of California (EDC), Sacramento, scheduled October 2, 1995, for sentencing. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
various city officials. On 8/1/95, subjects Clovis City Councilman Leif Curtis Sorensen, and Fresno developers Patrick Robert Fortune, Kenneth Gary Crabtree, Jack Lloyd Williams, David Michael Williams, and Fresno restaurateur David Robert Milutinovich were indicted by the Federal Grand Jury (FGJ), EDC, Sacramento, on a variety of criminal charges including violations of the RICO, Money Laundering, Obstruction of Justice, Hobbs Act - Extortion, Conspiracy to Obstruct Justice, Perjury and Tampering With a Witness, all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 371, 1503, 1512, 1623, 1951, 1956 and 1962. Summonses were thereafter issued. The aforementioned subjects are expected to be arraigned on August 16, 1995, before a United States Magistrate, EDC, Fresno.

It is expected that with respect to phase 3 of captioned investigation, subjects Clovis City Councilman Glynn Lafayette Bryant, former Clovis City Mayor Charles David Lawson, Clovis City Councilman Leif Curtis Sorensen, Fresno developers Gerald Marvin Hamel, Patrick Robert Fortune, Grant Lee Bybee, Diane B. Bybee, Alyce Faye Yearout, and possibly Fresno real estate agent Vicki Lea Miller, and former Clovis City Council candidates Glenda Jean Lowe and Shirley Jean Ingals will all be indicted on similar charges concerning their dealings with the Clovis City Council, or as members of the Clovis City Council, or attempts to become Clovis City Council members in violation of Federal statutes.

Phase 4 of the investigation will concern the investigation/prosecution of Fresno City officials, to include current City Councilman Robert Charles Lung and possibly three former City Council Persons, Robert Cooper Smith, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] again, on a variety of criminal charges to include violations of the RICO, Hobbs Act - Extortion, Money Laundering, and Obstruction related charges. It is expected several Fresno developers will also be included in the indictment. Phase 5 of the investigation is yet to be determined.

b7C

**Request of FBIHQ: None**

(03/31/95)

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

To: Director, FBI From: Sacramento

Re: 194B-SC-23790, 08/09/1995

**Lead:**

Sacramento Division

Sacramento, California:

Investigation continuing.



402

Office of Enforcement Operations  
Criminal Division

August 14, 1995

Director, FBI

REZONE; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC  
OFFICIALS - LOCAL LEVEL

Enclosed is a copy of a communication which furnishes  
information concerning a current investigation.

✓ Pursuant to the Attorney's General's Memorandum of  
November 7, 1983, captioned "Procedures for Lawful,  
Warrantless Interceptions of Verbal Communications,"  
addressed to the Heads and Inspectors General of  
Executive Departments and Agencies, the following  
notification request is being made relative to the  
authorization to utilize an electronic device to  
monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations  
with the consent of a party.

Pursuant to Attorney General's Order Number  
985-82, dated August 6, 1982, captioned "Delegation of  
Authority to Authorize Television Surveillance," the  
following notification/request is being made relative  
to the authorization to utilize Closed Circuit  
Television (CCTV) surveillance in connection with  
captioned matter.

194B SC-23140-10

✓ 1. Emergency authority to utilize an electronic  
device to record private non-telephonic  
conversations with the consent of a party was  
granted by an appropriate FBI official on  
JULY 31, 1995, for 30 days ending  
AUGUST 29, 1995. Exigent circumstances  
precluded a request for authorization in  
advance.

2. Emergency authorization to utilize Closed  
Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance in  
connection with captioned matter was granted  
by appropriate FBI official on \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, for 30 days ending \_\_\_\_\_.  
Exigent circumstances precluded a request for  
authorization in advance.

Dep. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief of \_\_\_\_\_  
Staff \_\_\_\_\_  
Off. of Gen. \_\_\_\_\_  
Counsel \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Crim. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
CJIS \_\_\_\_\_  
Finance \_\_\_\_\_  
Info. Res. \_\_\_\_\_  
Insp. \_\_\_\_\_  
Lab. \_\_\_\_\_  
National Sec. \_\_\_\_\_  
Personnel \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Off. of EEOA \_\_\_\_\_  
Off. of Public \_\_\_\_\_  
& Cong. Affs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director's Office \_\_\_\_\_

1 - Elsur Index, IMD

DJK:vzb (5)

b7C

MAIL ROOM ☒

FBI/DOJ

Memorandum from Director, FBI to Office of Enforcement Operations  
RE: REZONE; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC  
OFFICIALS - LOCAL LEVEL

- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. As further utilization of an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party is expected in this matter, it is requested that you approve the use of this equipment for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. As further use of CCTV is expected in this matter, it is requested that your office approve the use of this equipment for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Non-emergency authorization is requested for the utilization of an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party for a period of 90 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Non-emergency authorization is requested for the utilization of CCTV surveillance for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.

The use of these electronic devices in this case is being recommended in the best interest of effective law enforcement in that they are expected to provide corroborative evidence and/or protect the individual(s) utilizing the equipment.

The use of CCTV will not involve any trespass and it will be utilized only when a consenting party is present. The CCTV will be under the care, custody and control of the FBI.

Enclosure

APPROVED:

Crim. Inv. WGE/K Info. Res. \_\_\_\_\_ Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Crim. Jus. Info. \_\_\_\_\_ Inspection \_\_\_\_\_ Office of EEO \_\_\_\_\_  
Srvs. \_\_\_\_\_ Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_ Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Director \_\_\_\_\_ Finance \_\_\_\_\_ National Sec. \* - Office of Public &  
Deputy Director \_\_\_\_\_ Gen. Counsel \_\_\_\_\_ Personnel \_\_\_\_\_ Cong. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 1  
Page 1 ~ Duplicate



402

**INFORMATION COMMUNICATION**

Date: 8/24/95

**FROM:** Criminal Investigative Division  
Public Corruption/Civil Rights Section

**CONTACT:** SSA [REDACTED]

b7C

**TO:** Sacramento (194B-SC-23790) (Encl. 3)  
Elsur Coordinator  
Information Management Division (Encl. 1)  
Elsur Unit

**TITLE:** REZONE; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC  
OFFICIALS - LOCAL LEVEL; OO: SACRAMENTO

**RE:** Sacramento FD-759 dated 8/3/95

**ENCL:** Department of Justice memorandum dated 8/14/95

b7D

**PURPOSE(S):** To advise the Sacramento Division of notification  
[REDACTED] for consensual monitoring beginning [REDACTED]

**DETAILS:** Enclosed are two copies of a memorandum from the  
Director to the Office of Enforcement Operations (OEO), Criminal  
Division, U.S. Department of Justice, upon which OEO was apprised  
of the use of a transmitting and/or recording device which  
authorization was granted by the SAC due to exigent  
circumstances. This authority is for a 30 day period commencing  
[REDACTED]

b7D

You are to submit an FD-621 within 30 days of the  
expiration of this authorization furnishing information regarding  
use of the equipment in accordance with MIOG, Part II, Section  
10-10.3(9).

In the event a renewal of this authorization is  
deemed warranted, submit your request with full justification at  
least seven days prior to the expiration of the existing  
authorization, in compliance with MIOG, Part II, Section  
10-10.3(9).

**APPROVED:**

Crim. Inv. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Info. Res. _____	Training _____
Crim. Jus. Info. _____	Inspection _____	Office of EEO _____
Servs. _____	Laboratory _____	Affairs _____
Director _____	Finance _____	National Sec. _____
Deputy Director _____	Gen. Counsel _____	Personnel _____
		Cong. Affairs _____

① - File # (194B-SC-23790)

1 - Working Copy

DJK:vlb (6)

Sealed  
ENCL

194B-SC-23790-

95 AUG 16 PM 12:07

Subject : REZONE; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC  
OFFICIALS - LOCAL LEVEL

Return to  
Am 3149

Memorandum from Director, FBI to Office of Enforcement Operations  
RE: REZONE; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC  
OFFICIALS - LOCAL LEVEL

- \_\_\_\_\_3. As further utilization of an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party is expected in this matter, it is requested that you approve the use of this equipment for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_4. As further use of CCTV is expected in this matter, it is requested that your office approve the use of this equipment for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_5. Non-emergency authorization is requested for the utilization of an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party for a period of 90 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_6. Non-emergency authorization is requested for the utilization of CCTV surveillance for a period of 60 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.

The use of these electronic devices in this case is being recommended in the best interest of effective law enforcement in that they are expected to provide corroborative evidence and/or protect the individual(s) utilizing the equipment.

The use of CCTV will not involve any trespass and it will be utilized only when a consenting party is present. The CCTV will be under the care, custody and control of the FBI.

Enclosure

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 1  
Page 1 ~ Duplicate



***ACS***

***AUTOMATED CASE  
SUPPORT***

***ALL DOCUMENTS FROM THIS POINT  
PROCESSED IN ACS***

***NAME***

b7C

***DATE***

2-5-96

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Classification of Mail:

- ☒ Unclassified  
☐ Confidential  
☐ Secret  
☐ Top Secret\*  
☐ SCI\*  
☐ Other

## Mail Category:

Letter \_\_\_\_\_ Airtel 2  
 LHM \_\_\_\_\_ Memo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Report \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Teletype \_\_\_\_\_

FD-501 Number \_\_\_\_\_ FD-502 Number \_\_\_\_\_

Subject Sorenson, Leif, CurtisDate of Mail 3-22-95

Description of Material TOO HQ Memo SC  
 (include identity of originating office or agency)

This serial has been removed and placed in:

☐ Special File Room, Room 5991, FBIHQ

☐ QERF/OSU  
 (Field Office - Room, Cabinet, or other location where material is stored)

Contact   
 (off site processor)

b7C

This action taken based upon authority of:

☐ TS/SCICO, FBIHQ, 62-116065

☐ Field Office Manager — 194B-SC-23790-6  
 File and Serial number

 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Signature and Title of Approving Official)

 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\*\*requires special handling

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGE-OUT

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Classification of Mail:

- ☒ Unclassified  
☐ Confidential  
☐ Secret  
☒ Top Secret\*  
☐ SCI\*  
☐ Other

## Mail Category:

Letter ☒ Airtel \_\_\_\_\_  
 LHM \_\_\_\_\_ Memo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Report \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Teletype \_\_\_\_\_

FD-501 Number \_\_\_\_\_

FD-502 Number \_\_\_\_\_

Subject Sorenson, Leif, CurtisDate of Mail 7-28-95

Description of Material

12% SCAlamo HQ

(include identity of originating office or agency)

This serial has been removed and placed in:

☐ Special File Room, Room 5991, FBIHQ

☒ QERF/OSU  
 (Field Office - Room, Cabinet, or other  
 location where material is stored)

 contact   
 (off site processor)

b7C

This action taken based upon authority of:

☐ TS/SCICO, FBIHQ, 62-116065

☐ Field Office Manager

194B-SC-23790-1A  
 File and Serial number
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature and Title of Approving Official)\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\*\*requires special handling

PERMANENT SERIAL CHARGE-OUT

AIRTEL

## Federal Bureau of Investigation

From: <sup>24869</sup> SAC, SACRAMENTO (194B-SC-23790)Date: 8/30/95To: DIRECTOR, FBI  
ATTN: ELSUR INDEXSubject: REZONE  
CSLPO - LOCAL LEVEL:  
OO: SACRAMENTO

XX Emergency Authority. Re SACRAMENTO FD-759 to FBIHQ  
dated 8/3/95 captioned as above.

\_\_\_\_\_ Routine Authority. Re \_\_\_\_\_ to FBIHQ  
dated \_\_\_\_\_ and Bu \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
dated \_\_\_\_\_ captioned as above.

**NOTE: If no confirming communication received from FBIHQ in response to your request for routine use of a nontelephonic consensual monitoring device, mark below:**

\_\_\_\_\_ No confirming communication received from FBIHQ to date.

The following information relates to the use of the equipment:

XX Its use provided information which corroborated or assisted in corroborating the allegation or suspicion.  
\_\_\_\_\_ It was used, but no information of value was obtained.  
\_\_\_\_\_ It was not used.

(Only one of the above applies)

Complete and submit within 30 days of expiration of **each** and **every** period of authorization granted for nontelephonic consensual monitoring by either SAC, DOJ or FBIHQ - CID (whether an initial or a subsequent authorization), and for each extension or renewal thereof.

Transmit to FBIHQ in a sealed brown envelope labeled "Director, FBI, ELSUR Index, FBIHQ."

1-6712  
② Bureau  
2- 194B-SC-23790  
1- 66-682

(Field Office Elsur Case Sub File)  
(ELSUR control file)

GMS/gms  
(5)

400  
ELSUR INDEX

AIRTEL

## Federal Bureau of Investigation

From: SAC, SACRAMENTO (194B-SC-27262) <sup>3</sup>Date: 2/29/96To: DIRECTOR, FBI  
ATTN: ELSUR INDEXSubject: 

b7C

CSPLU;  
OO: SACRAMENTOXX Routine Authority. Re SACRAMENTO FD-759 to FBIHQ  
dated 9/8/95 captioned as above.       Routine Authority. Re                                  to FBIHQ  
dated                      and Bu                      to                       
dated                      captioned as above.

**NOTE: If no confirming communication received from FBIHQ in response to your request for routine use of a nontelephonic consensual monitoring device, mark below:**

       No confirming communication received from FBIHQ to date.

The following information relates to the use of the equipment:

XX Its use provided information which corroborated or assisted in corroborating the allegation or suspicion.  
       It was used, but no information of value was obtained.  
       It was not used.  
(Only one of the above applies)

Complete and submit within 30 days of expiration of **each** and **every** period of authorization granted for nontelephonic consensual monitoring by either SAC, DOJ or FBIHQ - CID (whether an initial or a subsequent authorization), and for each extension or renewal thereof.

Transmit to FBIHQ in a sealed brown envelope labeled "Director, FBI, ELSUR Index, FBIHQ."

*1-Rm 5359*  
(2) Bureau  
2- 194B-SC-27262  
1- 66-682

(Field Office Elsur Case Sub File)  
(ELSUR control file)

GMS/gms  
(5)



AIRTEL

## Federal Bureau of Investigation

From: SAC, SACRAMENTO (194B-SC-23790)

Date: 4/24/96To: DIRECTOR, FBI  
ATTN: ELSUR INDEXSubject: 

b7C

CSLPO - LOCAL SUPERVISOR;  
OO: SACRAMENTO

XX Routine Authority. Re SACRAMENTO FD-759 to FBIHQ  
dated 11/27/95 captioned as above.

\_\_\_\_\_ Routine Authority. Re \_\_\_\_\_ to FBIHQ  
dated \_\_\_\_\_ and Bu \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
dated \_\_\_\_\_ captioned as above.

**NOTE: If no confirming communication received from FBIHQ in response to your request for routine use of a nontelephonic consensual monitoring device, mark below:**

XX No confirming communication received from FBIHQ to date.

The following information relates to the use of the equipment:

XX Its use provided information which corroborated or assisted in corroborating the allegation or suspicion.  
\_\_\_\_\_ It was used, but no information of value was obtained.  
\_\_\_\_\_ It was not used.  
(Only one of the above applies)

Complete and submit within 30 days of expiration of **each and every** period of authorization granted for nontelephonic consensual monitoring by either SAC, DOJ or FBIHQ - CID (whether an initial or a subsequent authorization), and for each extension or renewal thereof.

Transmit to FBIHQ in a sealed brown envelope labeled "Director, FBI, ELSUR Index, FBIHQ."

1- Rm 5357  
2- Bureau  
2- 194B-SC-23790  
1- 66-682

(Field Office Elsur Case Sub File)  
(ELSUR control file)

GMS/gms  
(5)

APR 25 1996  
FBIHQ

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Precedence:** ROUTINE

**Date:** 05/06/1996

**To:** FBIHQ

**Attn:** Public Corruption Unit

**From:** Sacramento

Squad 7

**Contact:** SA [REDACTED]

**Approved By:** [REDACTED]

**Drafted By:** [REDACTED]

jjw  
191

**File Number(s):** 194B-SC-23790 (Pending)

**Title:** REZONE, CSLPO - LOCAL LEVEL  
**OO:** SACRAMENTO

b7C

**Synopsis:** Since 6/29/95, 13 subjects have been criminally charged in a series of related Indictments and/or Informations returned either by the Federal Grand Jury (FGJ) or filed before a U.S. District Court Judge (USDCJ), all Eastern District of California, in either Sacramento or Fresno, California, for violations of the RICO, Hobbs Act-Extortion, Money Laundering, Obstruction of Justice, Witness Tampering, Perjury, Honest Services Mail Fraud, and Subscribing to a False Tax Return Statutes, Title 18, USC, Sections 1962(c), 1951, 1956, 1503, 1512, 1623, 1346, and Title 26, USC, Section 7206(1).

To date, the two year "REZONE" corruption investigation has resulted in 9 defendants pleading "guilty" with more than 450 FGJ subpoenas being issued and approximately 150,000 documents examined. The case has received constant "front" page attention by the electronic/print media because it was suspected inside dealings were taking place between members of the various city councils and local developers. The trial re, defendants BRYANT and HAMEL was scheduled for November 1996.

Investigation/prosecution at Sacramento/Fresno, California continuing.

**Reference:** Sacramento teletype to FBIHQ, dated 6/27/96.



COB Rm 3149

194B-SC-23790-191

(03/31/95)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

To: FBIHQ From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 05/06/1996

**Details:** As previously noted captioned matter concerns certain land owners, developers, and city officials "cashing in" on the local rezoning process at the expense of citizens residing in the San Joaquin Valley, particularly in the Clovis/Fresno, California areas. As an example, farmland purchased between \$3,500-\$8,500 an acre can later be resold with improvements and rezoning for as much as \$100,000 an acre. If the site has "shopping center" potential, it's value can escalate to more than \$250,000 an acre. MICHAEL WOODY, a Fresno City Councilman, recently commented to a local news reporter covering captioned matter, "Getting a majority vote on a (city) council easily nets any developer \$500,000."

b7C

b7D

With the aforementioned facts in place captioned matter was predicated in March 1994, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Investigation determined the aforementioned re-election scheme was designed, in part, to better protect the developers' interests who grew tired of getting their rezone applications approved in "squeaky" 3-2 votes. Since 3 CCC members had already been "bribed," instead of being satisfied with their "squeaky" wins, in 1994, the developers decided to try to pack the CCC by secretly funneling money to their Clovis mayoral incumbent (attempting to win a re-election bid), and 2 new candidates (who were virtual unknowns except to the area's developers).

The expectation was if they succeeded, 4 if not 5 members of the CCC would be pro-growth, having their seats secured via developer money. Thereafter, developers could decide who would cast the "yes" and "no" votes, instead of having the same usual 3 voting in favor of the projects (leaving the general public suspicious that a conspiracy existed to completely "pave" over the Fresno/Clovis area).



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

To: FBIHQ From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 05/06/1996

b7C

b7D

With the aforementioned scheme in mind, certain  
Clovis/Fresno developers [REDACTED]

On 6/29/95, subject JEFFREY THOMAS ROBERTS pled guilty to an Information charging him with 1 count violation Hobbs Act-Extortion, Title 18, USC, Section 1951; and 1 count violation Subscribing to a False Tax Return, Title 26, USC, 7206(1); in exchange for a prison sentence ranging 24-30 months, fined \$10,000, and agreeing to an IRS audit, ~~paying all back taxes owed~~ (including fines and penalties), [REDACTED] investigation.

On 8/1/95, the Federal Grand Jury (FGJ), Eastern District of California (EDC), Sacramento, California returned a 15 count Indictment charging 6 defendants with a variety of criminal acts including violations of the RICO, Money Laundering, Witness Tampering, Obstruction of Justice, Perjury, Extortion, and Attempted Extortion Statutes.

Specifically, subject Clovis City Councilman LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN was charged with 1 count violation of the RICO Statute, Title 18, USC, Section 1962(c); 2 counts Aiding and Abetting Extortion, violation Title 18, USC, Section 1952; 3 counts Extortion, violation Title 18, USC, Section 1951; 3 counts Aiding and Abetting Money Laundering, violation Title 18, USC, 1956; 2 counts Conspiracy to Tamper with a Witness, violation Title 18, USC, Section 1512; and 2 counts Conspiracy to Obstruct Justice, violation Title 18, USC, Section 1503.

Subject JACK LLOYD WILLIAMS was charged with 2 counts violation Aiding and Abetting an attempted Extortion, Title 18, USC, 1951; 1 count Money Laundering, violation Title 18, USC, 1956; 1 count Conspiracy to Obstruct Justice, violation Title 18, USC, 1503; and 1 count Obstruction of Justice, violaton Title 18, USC, Section 1503.

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

To: FBIHQ From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 05/06/1996

Subjects PATRICK ROBERT FORTUNE and KENNETH GARY CRABTREE were both charged with 2 counts violation Conspiracy to Tamper with a Witness and Witness Tampering, Title 18, USC, Section 1512.

Subject DAVID ROBERT MILUTINOVICH was charged with 1 count violation Perjury committed before the Federal Grand Jury (FGJ), EDC, Sacramento, Title 18, USC, Section 1623; and 2 counts violation Conspiracy to Obstruct Justice and Obstruction of Justice, Title 18, USC, Section 1503.

Subject DAVID MICHAEL WILLIAMS was also charged with 1 count violation Perjury committed before the FGJ, EDC, Sacramento, Title 18, USC, 1623; and 2 counts violation Conspiracy to Obstruct Justice and Obstruction of Justice, Title 18, USC, Section 1503.

On August 16, 1995, subject PATRICK ROBERT FORTUNE pled "guilty" to 1 count Witness Tampering, as charged in the aforementioned August 1995 Indictment. Additionally, FORTUNE pled "guilty" to an Information, charging him with 1 count violation Honest Services Mail Fraud, in violation Title 18, USC, Section 1346; and 1 count Subscribing to a False Tax Return, Title 26, USC, 7206(1). In exchange for FORTUNE's guilty plea, he agreed to pay a \$5,000 fine, submit amended tax returns for years 1991 thru 1994 (paying any back taxes owed, including fines and penalties), be incarcerated for a period ranging 24 to 30 months, [REDACTED] investigation. b7D

b7C

On January 4, 1996, Fresno developer GERALD MARVIN HAMEL, and Clovis City Council member GLYNN LAFAYETTE BRYANT, along with former Clovis City Mayor, CHARLES DAVID LAWSON, and former Clovis Council member LEIF CURTIS SORENSEN were charged in a 21 count Indictment returned by the FGJ, EDC, Sacramento, alleging Honest Services Mail Fraud, in violation Title 18, USC, Section 1346. b7D

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

To: FBIHQ From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 05/06/1996

On February 1, 1996, subject JACK LLOYD WILLIAMS was "indicted" by the FGJ, EDC, Sacramento, having been criminally charged with 2 counts violation Subscribing to a False Tax Return, Title 26, USC, Section 7206(1), where he understated his income in 1991 by \$36,000, and in 1992 by \$59,068 as well as overstating his travel expenses by \$13,562; and 1 count violation Failure to File a Tax Return, Title 26, USC, Section 7203, in calendar year 1993, having received a gross income of approximately \$172,643.

On March 19, 1996, former Fresno City Councilmember ROBERT COOPER SMITH, pled "guilty" to an Information charging him with 1 count violation of the Hobbs Act-Extortion Statute, Title 18, USC, Section 1951, and 1 count violation Subscribing to a False Tax Return, Title 26, USC, Section 7206(1). [REDACTED]

On June 10, 1996, upon the eve of trial Fresno developer KENNETH GARY CRABTREE pled "guilty" to 1 count Witness Tampering (as charged in the aforementioned August 1995), in exchange for a sentence as specified utilizing the sentencing guidelines. His agreement did not cover other criminal acts where CRABTREE was suspected by Sacramento for committing same and his defense lawyer was so warned. USDCJ OLIVER W. WANGER, EDC, Fresno ordered a presentence report, scheduling CRABTREE for sentencing at a later date. b7D

Thereafter, on June 11, 1996, trial commenced before USDCJ WANGER, EDC, Fresno, California concerning subjects SORENSEN, JACK LLOYD & DAVID MICHAEL WILLIAMS, and MILUTINOVICH. It was expected trial would last approximately 4 weeks.

On June 20, 1996, as a result of entering into a plea agreement with USA CHARLES STEVENS, EDC, Sacramento, DAVID ROBERT MILUTINOVICH pled "guilty" (as charged) to 1 count Attempting to Obstruct Justice, in violation Title 18, USC, Section 1503. USDCJ WANGER ordered a presentence report and MILUTINOVICH was expected to be sentenced in September, 1996.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

To: FBIHQ From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 05/06/1996

On June 27, 1996, remaining defendant subjects SORENSEN and JACK LLOYD WILLIAMS entered "guilty" pleas before USDCJ WANGER to violations of Hobbs Act-Extortion, Obstruction of Justice, and Subscribing to a False Tax Return, Title 18, USC, Sections 1951 & 1503, and Title 26, USC, 7206(1). Specifically, SORENSEN pled "guilty" to 1 count violation Hobbs Act-Extortion and Obstruction of Justice in [REDACTED] the investigation and a period of incarceration ranging 27-33 months. JACK WILLIAMS pled "guilty" to 1 count violation of Obstruction of Justice and Subscribing to a False Tax Return in exchange for a period of incarceration ranging 12-18 months and paying all back taxes owed (including fines and penalties). USCDJ WANGER ordered both SORENSEN and JACK WILLIAMS to be sentenced on September 9, 1996. DAVID MICHAEL WILLIAMS was granted a "deferred prosecution" and placed on 1 year probation. b7D

Subjects Clovis City Councilman GLYNN LAFAYETTE BRYANT and Fresno developer GERALD MARVIN HAMEL have been scheduled for trial in November 1996.

### Descriptive Data:

#### Main Subjects

Race:	W
Sex:	M
Name -	
Last:	ROBERTS
First:	JEFFREY
Middle:	THOMAS
DDN:	
DOB:	[REDACTED]
POB:	Burbank, CA
SSN:	[REDACTED]

Race:	W
Sex:	M
Name -	
Last:	FORTUNE
First:	PATRICK
Middle:	ROBERT
DDN:	
DOB:	[REDACTED]
POB:	Fresno, CA
SSN:	[REDACTED]

b7C

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

To: FBIHQ From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 05/06/1996

Race: W  
Sex: M  
Name -  
Last: LAWSON  
First: CHARLES  
Middle: DAVID  
DDN:  
DOB:   
POB: Princeton, KY

Race: B  
Sex: M  
Name -  
Last: SMITH  
First: ROBERT  
Middle: COOPER  
DDN:  
DOB:   
POB:   
SSN:   
FBI#:

Race: W  
Sex: M  
Name -  
Last: SORENSEN  
First: LEIF  
Middle: CURTIS  
DDN:  
DOB:   
POB: Hanford, CA  
SSN:

b7C

Race: W  
Sex: M  
Name -  
Last: WILLIAMS  
First: JACK  
Middle: LLOYD  
DDN:  
DOB:   
POB: Hanford, CA  
SSN:

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

To: FBIHQ From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 05/06/1996

Race: W  
Sex: M  
Name -  
Last: WILLIAMS  
First: DAVID  
Middle: MICHAEL  
DDN:

DOB:   
POB: Fresno, CA  
SSN:

Race: W  
Sex: M  
Name -  
Last: MILUTINOVICH  
First: DAVID  
Middle: ROBERT  
DDN:

DOB:   
POB: San Diego, CA  
SSN:

Race: W  
Sex: M  
Name -  
Last: CRABTREE  
First: KENNETH  
Middle: GARY  
DDN:

DOB:   
POB: Anselma, CA  
SSN:

Race: W  
Sex: M  
Name -  
Last: BRYANT  
First: GLYNN  
Middle: LAFAYETTE  
DDN:

DOB:   
POB:  
SSN:

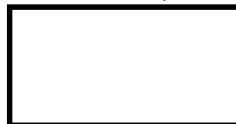
b7C

(03/31/95)

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

To: FBIHQ From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 05/06/1996

Race:	W
Sex:	M
Name -	
Last:	HAMEL
First:	GERALD
Middle:	MARVIN
DDN:	
DOB:	
POB:	
SSN:	



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RR RUCNFB

DE FBISC #0001 1800109

ZNR UUUUU

R 280109Z JUN 96

FM FBI SACRAMENTO (194B-SC-23790) (P)

TO DIRECTOR FBI/ROUTINE/

BT

UNCLAS

CITE: //3720//

PASS: ATTENTION SSA [REDACTED] PUBLIC CORRUPTION UNIT.

b7C

SUBJECT: REZONE.

no  
file

ON 6/27/95, THREE DEFENDANTS IN THE REZONE TRIAL PLED  
GUILTY MID-TRIAL BEFORE JUDGE OLIVER W. WANGER, IN THE U.S.  
DISTRICT COURT IN FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, THUS ENDING THE TRIAL.

FORMER CITY COUNCIL MEMBER LEIF C. SORENSEN PLED GUILTY

[REDACTED]

b7D

REAL ESTATE AGENT JACK L. WILLIAMS PLED GUILTY TO

[REDACTED]

194B-SC-23790-197

no  
file



PAGE TWO DE F3ISC 0001 UNCLAS

OBSTRUCTION AND TAX COUNTS, WITH AN ORDER TO PAY BACK TAXES IN EXCESS OF \$100,000, AND A 12-18 MONTH PRISON TERM.

DAVID WILLIAMS, JACK WILLIAMS' SON, AGREED TO A DEFERRED PROSECUTION FOR PERJURY AND ONE YEAR PROBATION.

ON 5/11/96, DEVELOPER/LOBBYIST KENNETH CRABTREE PLED GUILTY TO OBSTRUCTION CHARGES ON THE FIRST DAY OF TRIAL.

ON 6/20/96, RESTAURANT OWNER DAVID MILUTINOVICH PLED GUILTY TO OBSTRUCTION CHARGES MID-TRIAL.

PREVIOUSLY, DEVELOPER PATRICK FORTUNE PLED GUILTY TO FRAUD AND TAX CHARGES AND JEFFREY T. ROBERTS, A LAND DEVELOPER LOBBYIST, PLED GUILTY. [REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

FORMER FRESNO CITY COUNCILMAN ROBERT C. SMITH PLED GUILTY IN MARCH 1996 TO EXTORTION AND TAX CHARGES. FORMER CLOVIS CITY MAYOR CHARLES LAWSON PLED GUILTY IN JANUARY 1996 TO A VIOLATION OF HONEST SERVICES MAIL FRAUD [REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED] ADDITIONALLY, CLOVIS CITY COUNCILMAN GLYNN BRYANT, DEVELOPER GERALD HAMEL AND KENNETH FORTUNE HAVE BEEN INDICTED AND AWAIT TRIAL. OTHER INDICTMENTS ARE ANTICIPATED.

THE ABOVE TRIAL HAS RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY AND

PAGE THREE DE FBISC 0001 UNCLAS

HAS HAD A TREMENDOUS IMPACT ON THE CENTRAL VALLEY OF  
CALIFORNIA. OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE ONGOING REZONE  
INVESTIGATION ARE INDICATING AN INTEREST IN PLEA NEGOTIATIONS.  
ADDITIONAL DETAILS WILL FOLLOW.

BT

#0001

NNNN

(03/31/95)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 09/17/1996

*RHR/aw*  
To: FBIHQ

Attn: Public Corruption Unit

From: Sacramento

Squad 7

Contact: SA [REDACTED]

b7C

Approved By: [REDACTED]

*ju*  
Drafted By: [REDACTED]

JJW

File Number(s): 194B-SC-23790-<sup>213</sup>(Pending)

Title: REZONE, CSLPO - Local Level, (OO:SC)

**Synopsis:** The June 1996 jury trial held before USDC Judge OLIVER W. WANGER, EDC, Fresno, resulted in defendants CRABTREE, MILUTINOVICH, JACK WILLIAMS, DAVID WILLIAMS, and SORENSEN changing their pleas from innocent to "guilty." Thereafter, the 5 defendants were sentenced in August and September 1996 as noted below.

Defendants GERALD MARVIN HAMEL and Clovis City Councilman GLYNN LAFAYETTE BRYANT are scheduled for trial, 11/5/95, before USDC Judge ROBERT E. COYLE, EDC, Fresno.

b7C

Recent investigation has uncovered numerous bankruptcy violations (eg. concealing assets and providing false testimony under oath to a bankruptcy court), committed by [REDACTED]

Investigation has also identified entities [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] farm subsidies from the U.S. Department of Agriculture in excess of hundreds of thousands of dollars that might be part of a separate fraudulent scam, which aside from the bankruptcy matter is also being examined by the FGJ, EDC, Sacramento.

b7C

Since captioned matter is a joint investigation, IRS advises both [REDACTED] appear to have criminal tax problems.



*COB*  
*3149*

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

To: Sacramento From: Sacramento

Re: 194B-SC-23790, 09/17/1996

AUSA JOHN K. VINCENT advises he will pursue additional criminal Indictments re the [REDACTED] if charges can be substantiated concerning bank [REDACTED] and/or fraud violations. b7C

**Reference:** SC EC to FBIHQ, dated 6/28/96

**Details:** By the time the Government concluded it's two week presentation before a federal trial jury and USDC Judge OLIVER W. WANGER, EDC, Fresno, California, on 6/26/96, subjects KENNETH GARY CRABTREE, DAVID ROBERT MILITINOVICH, JACK LLOYD WILLIAMS, DAVID MICHAEL WILLIAMS and LIEF CURTIS SORENSEN entered "guilty" pleas to a variety of criminal charges including Witness Tampering, Attempting to Obstruct Justice, Hobbs Act-Extortion, Obstruction of Justice, and Subscribing to a False Tax Return, in violation of Title 18, USC, Sections 1512, 1503, 1951, 1503, and Title 26, USC, Section 7206(1).

On 8/12/96, subject PATRICK ROBERT FORTUNE was sentenced by Judge WANGER to 2 years custody of the Attorney general (AG), fined \$10,000, and ordered to serve 3 years probation subsequent to his release from prison. FORTUNE had earlier pled guilty to 1 count Witness Tampering (WT), 1 count Honest Services Mail Fraud (HSMF), and 1 count Subscribing to a False Tax Return, in violation of Title 18, USC, Sections 1512, and 1346, and Title 26, USC, Section 7206(1).

Judge WANGER also sentenced subject JEFFREY THOMAS ROBERTS to 1 year 9 months custody of the AG, fined \$10,000, and placed him on 3 years probation subsequent to his release from prison. ROBERTS had earlier pled guilty to 1 count Hobbs Act-Extortion, and 1 count Subscribing to a False Tax Return, in violation of Title 18, USC, Section 1951, and Title 26, USC, Section 7206(1).

On 8/26/96, Judge Wanger sentenced subject JACK LLOYD WILLIAMS to 13 months custody of the AG, fined him \$3,000, and ordered he serve 3 years probation subsequent to his release from prison. WILLIAMS also had to pay any back taxes owed, including fines and penalties. WILLIAMS had earlier pled guilty to 1 count Obstruction of Justice, in violation of Title 18, USC, Section 1503, and 1 count Subscribing to a False Tax Return, in violation of Title 26, USC, 7206(1).

(03/31/95)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

To: Sacramento From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 09/17/1996

Judge WANGER also sentenced WILLIAMS's son and ordered subject DAVID MICHAEL WILLIAMS to be placed on 1 year probation inasmuch as the Government agreed to a "Pretrial Diversion" disposition with respect to his case. DAVID WILLIAMS had been charged with 2 counts Obstruction of Justice and 1 count Perjury in violation of Title 18, USC, Sections 1503 and 1623.

On 9/3/96, Judge WANGER sentenced subject KENNETH GARY CRABTREE to 12 months probation and fined him \$1000, noting he earlier pled guilty to 1 count Witness Tampering, in violation of Title 18, USC, Section 1512.

Same date, Judge WANGER sentenced subject DAVID ROBERT MILUTINOVICH to 6 months custody of the AG and fined him \$2000. MILUTINOVICH had earlier pled guilty to 1 count Obstruction of Justice, in violation Title 18, USC, Section 1503.

On 9/6/96, Judge WANGER sentenced subject LIEF CURTIS SORENSEN to 2 1/2 years custody of the AG, fined him \$6000, and ordered he serve 3 years probation subsequent to his release from prison. SORENSEN had pled guilty to 1 count Hobbs Act-Extortion and 1 count Obstruction of Justice, in violation of Title 18, USC, Sections 1951 and 1503.

Presently, subjects GERALD MARVIN HAMEL and Clovis City Councilman GLYNN LAFAYETTE BRYANT are scheduled to go to trial, on 11/5/96, before USDC Judge ROBERT E. COYLE, Eastern District of California (EDC), Fresno, California. HAMEL and BRYANT had been charged, along Clovis City Mayor CHARLES DAVID LAWSON and Fresno developer PATRICK ROBERT FORTUNE, on 1/4/96, in a 21 count Indictment for violating the Honest Services Mail Fraud (HSMF) statute, Title 18, USC, Section 1346. As previously noted, LAWSON and FORTUNE have already pled guilty. LAWSON has yet to be sentenced, while FORTUNE was sentenced as noted above.

Aside from preparing for the aforementioned HAMEL/BRYANT trial, the investigating agent and AUSA JOHN K. VINCENT have been examining a voluminous amount of records and documents indicating [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7C  
In Salt Lake City, Utah. JULIE BRYAN, Assistant Federal Bankruptcy Trustee, Salt Lake City, UT advised in her experience she had never seen a bankruptcy petitioner like [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Aside from recommending the [REDACTED] bankruptcy be reviewed for prosecution, she advised she sought to recover approximately \$3 million in assets from [REDACTED] in which he ultimately agreed to return \$1.9

To: Sacramento From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 09/17/1996

Since the investigating agent suspects [redacted] may have submitted fraudulent documents to obtain the farm subsidies

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[redacted]

It should be noted the investigating agent also contacted Special Agent (SA) [redacted] Office of Inspector General (OIG), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDOA), San Francisco, California, telephone number [redacted] concerning documents submitted by [redacted] to USDOA for the purposes of receiving the aforementioned farm subsidies. [redacted] might be able to help the investigating agent identify, as well as obtain, any pertinent documents indicating a fraudulent scheme perpetrated by either [redacted] for which they both could be prosecuted.

b7C  
b7D

Investigation at Sacramento continuing.

**Descriptive Data:**

Main Subject

Race: W  
Sex: M  
Name -  
Last: HAMEL  
First: GERALD  
Middle: MARVIN  
DDN:  
DOB: [redacted]  
POB: Unknown  
SSAN #: [redacted]

Main Subject

Race: W  
Sex: M  
Name -  
Last: [redacted]  
First: [redacted]  
Middle: [redacted]  
DDN:  
DOB: [redacted]  
POB: Santa Monica, California  
SSAN #: [redacted]

To: Sacramento From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 09/17/1996

Main Subject

Race: W  
Sex: F  
Name -  
Last: [REDACTED]  
First: [REDACTED]  
Middle: [REDACTED]  
DDN: [REDACTED]  
DOB: [REDACTED]  
POB: Globe, Arizona  
SSAN #: [REDACTED]

Main Subject

Race: W  
Sex: F  
Name -  
Last: [REDACTED]  
First: [REDACTED]  
Middle: [REDACTED]  
DDN: [REDACTED]  
DOB: [REDACTED]  
POB: Unknown  
SSAN #: Unknown

b7C

Main Subject

Race: W  
Sex: M  
Name -  
Last: [REDACTED]  
First: [REDACTED]  
Middle: [REDACTED]  
DDN: [REDACTED]  
DOB: [REDACTED]  
POB: Van Nuys, California  
SSAN #: [REDACTED]

b7C

Main Subject

Race: W  
Sex: M  
Name -  
Last: [REDACTED]  
First: [REDACTED]  
Middle: [REDACTED]  
DDN: [REDACTED]  
DOB: [REDACTED]  
POB: Encino, California  
SSAN #: [REDACTED]

To: Sacramento From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 09/17/1996

Main Subject

Race:

W

Sex:

M

Name -

Last:

First:

Middle:

DDN:

DOB:

POB:

SSAN #:



b7C



Unknown



b7C

CC: File 194B-SC-23790

FBIHQ

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SS





FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 1  
Page 4 ~ b3, b7C

(07/31/95)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b7C

**Precedence:** PRIORITY

**Date:** 10/17/1996

✓ **To:** FBIHQ

**Attn:** [REDACTED]

PCU

**From:** Sacramento

Squad 7

**Contact:** [REDACTED]

*Rlyw*  
**Approved By:** [REDACTED]

*jjw*  
**Drafted By:** [REDACTED]

jjw

**File Number(s):** 194B-SC-23790 (Pending)

**Title:** REZONE, CSLPO - Local Level, OO:SC

**Synopsis:** Guilty plea secured re defendant Clovis City Councilman (CCC) GLYNN LAFAYETTE BRYANT.

**Reference:** Sacramento EC to FBIHQ, dated 9/17/96;  
Sacramento Facsimile to SSA [REDACTED] re guilty plea of defendant GERALD MARVIN HAMEL, dated 10/10/96.

**Details:** On 10/17/96, subject Clovis City Councilman GLYNN LAFAYETTE BRYANT appeared before United States District Court Judge (USDCJ) ROBERT E. COYLE, Eastern District of California (EDC), Fresno, California and pled "guilty" to 1 count violation of the Honest Services Mail Fraud (HSMF) statute, Title 18, United States Code (USC), Section 1346. The "guilty" plea secured as a result of an agreement reached with the U.S. Attorney's Office, EDC, Sacramento setting the range of BRYANT's period of incarceration to 21-27 months. [REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] USDCJ COYLE ordered a pre-sentence report and scheduled BRYANT for sentencing, 2/3/97.

As reflected in referenced facsimile, on 10/10/96, an Information was filed charging subject GERALD MARVIN HAMEL with bankruptcy and income tax fraud, in violation of Title 18, USC, Section 152 and Title 26, USC, 7206(2). HAMEL was awaiting trial, having previously been Indicted by the Federal Grand Jury (FGJ), EDC, Sacramento, 1/4/96, and charged with 21 counts of violating the HSMF statute, Title 18, USC, Section 1346.

*3149*

[REDACTED] b7C

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
To: FBIHQ From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 10/17/1996

Same date, HAMEL pled "guilty" to 1 count each violation HSMF, Bankruptcy, and Income Tax Fraud statutes, Title 18, USC, Sections 1346, 152 and Title 26, USC, Section 7206(2) in exchange for the U.S. Attorney recommending he serve the low end of his sentencing guide line range which was 27-33 months incarceration. USDCJ COYLE ordered a pre-sentence report and scheduled HAMEL for sentencing, 1/13/97.

As previously noted, the aforementioned BRYANT and HAMEL had been charged along with Clovis City Mayor CHARLES DAVID LAWSON and Fresno developer PATRICK ROBERT FORTUNE in a 21 count Indictment returned 1/4/96, alleging violations of the HSMF statute, Title 18, USC, 1346. Earlier in the

To date, 14 individuals have been indicted and/or charged as a result of Informations filed in USDC, EDC, Sacramento, with 11 subjects pleading "guilty" re captioned matter. California Central Valley news coverage continues to be extensive and Sacramento expects additional subjects to be charged as the investigation continues.

**Descriptive Data:**

Main Subject

Race:	W
Sex:	M
Name -	
Last:	BRYANT
First:	GLYNN
Middle:	LAFAYETTE
DDN:	
DOB:	<div data-bbox="857 1318 1172 1381" style="background-color: black; height: 30px; width: 100%;"></div>
POB:	Madera, California
SSAN #:	<div data-bbox="857 1402 1107 1453" style="background-color: black; height: 24px; width: 100%;"></div>
Address -	
House #:	<div data-bbox="857 1444 1166 1549" style="background-color: black; height: 50px; width: 100%;"></div>
Street Name:	
City:	Clovis
State:	California
Country:	US

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b7C

To: FBIHQ From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 10/17/1996

Main Subject

Race:

W

Sex:

M

Name -

Last:

HAMEL

First:

GERALD

Middle:

MARVIN

DDN:

DOB:

SSAN #:

Address -

House #:

Pre Direction:

Street Name:

City:

State:

California

Postal Code:

93611

Country:

US

Miscellaneous -

Wife

b7C

CC: File 194B-SC-23790

SA

♦♦



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney  
Eastern District of California

Federal Building, Room 3654  
United States Courthouse  
1130 O Street  
Fresno, California 93721.

209-498-7272  
Fax 209-498-7432

## FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE: 10/10/96

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MESSAGE (IF ANY):



For your info, Attached "guilty" plea is  
being taken today in Sacramento's REZONE CASE  
194B-SC-23790 RE subject GERALD M. HAMEL.  
Thanks - [redacted]

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U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney  
Eastern District of California*

555 Capitol Mall, Suite 1550  
Sacramento, California 95814

916/554-2700  
Fax 916/554-2100

Mailing Address:  
650 Capitol Mall  
Sacramento, California 95814

Patty Pontello, Media Coordinator  
(916) 554-2706

PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 10, 1996

HAMEL TO PLEAD GUILTY TO MAIL,  
BANKRUPTCY, AND TAX FRAUD

United States Attorney Charles J. Stevens announced today that the government and defendant Jerry M. Hamel have executed a guilty plea agreement to resolve the pending honest services mail fraud case against defendant Hamel as well as bankruptcy and tax fraud cases that have been under investigation. Defendant Hamel has been awaiting trial in the mail fraud case before the Honorable Robert E. Coyle in United States v. Jerry M. Hamel, et al., CR F-96-5002.

Pursuant to the plea agreement, defendant Hamel agrees to plead guilty to Count 14 of the pending Indictment -- honest services mail fraud. The defendant will also waive Indictment and plead guilty to an Information being filed today charging him with bankruptcy fraud and aiding and assisting in the preparation

of a false income tax return. The maximum statutory sentence is thirteen years of incarceration, a three-year period of supervised release, a fine of \$750,000, and a special assessment of \$300. Pursuant to the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the applicable sentencing range is twenty-seven to thirty-three months.

The plea agreement, with the supporting factual basis, and the Information are being filed this morning. (A copy of the factual basis is attached hereto.) The parties intend to appear today at approximately 1:30 p.m. before The Honorable Robert E. Coyle for the entry of defendant Hamel's guilty pleas.

Factual Basis - Exhibit AIndictment - Count 14

At all relevant times, I was an incorporator and director of Williamsburg Manor. Williamsburg Manor was a company engaged in the building of homes.

In approximately March 1991, Pat Fortune, with my acquiescence and approval, arranged for Williamsburg Manor to secure a \$27,000 loan from California Valley Bank to then-Clovis City Councilmember Charles D. Lawson. I was aware at the time that Lawson could not have gotten the loan otherwise. The money advanced by Williamsburg Manor for the certificate of deposit to secure the loan was charged against my personal shareholder account. I was aware of, and acquiesced in, Williamsburg Manor's repayment in June 1992 of the \$27,000 loan from California Valley Bank to then-Clovis City Councilmember Charles D. Lawson by surrendering to California Valley Bank the certificate of deposit in the amount of approximately \$27,000 which had been used to secure the loan. I was present and agreed to an arrangement under which the loan would be repaid through an entity known as the ASC Corporation, which was a company my brother-in-law had, knowing and intending that this repayment arrangement would have the effect of hiding our involvement in the loan.

I understand that each year, from 1991 to January 1996, Lawson filed false Statements of Economic Interests with the Fair Political Practices Commission stating under oath that he had no reportable interests in loans, despite the existence of the \$27,000 loan Fortune and I made to him. I further understand that these false Statements of Economic Interests were delivered by the United States Postal Service to the Fair Political Practices Commission in Sacramento, CA according to the directions thereon. I did not expect Lawson to disclose publicly the existence of the loan, nor did I intend for him or want him to do so.

On August 31, 1992, despite the existence of the loan identified above and the corresponding conflict of interest, Lawson, along with then-Clovis City Councilmembers Glynn L. Bryant and Leif C. Sorensen, voted in favor of Williamsburg Manor, Inc. on a matter then-pending before the Clovis City Council concerning property located north of Alluvial Avenue between Willow and Peach Avenues in Clovis, California.

As part of the scheme to defraud, I knowingly caused a letter, dated June 19, 1992 from Alyce Yearout of Williamsburg Manor in Fresno, California to Ben Hanson of California Valley Bank in Firebaugh, California requesting that the certificate of deposit be used to pay off the loan Lawson had at California Valley Bank, to be sent and delivered by the United States Postal Service, according to the directions thereon.

In addition, in 1992 and 1993, using a Williamsburg Manor checking account, I sent campaign contributions through



intermediaries to then-Clovis City Councilmembers Glynn L. Bryant and Leif C. Sorensen so as to disguise the source of the payments. I also sent personal money to Leif C. Sorensen directly. Pat Fortune also gave Glynn Bryant \$5,000 directly. Sorensen and Bryant received this money before the vote identified above. I understand both Sorensen and Bryant filed false campaign statements and Statements of Economic Interests in that they did not identify me or Pat Fortune as the source of the money we gave them. I further understand that these false Statements of Economic Interests were delivered by the United States Postal Service to the Fair Political Practices Commission in Sacramento, CA according to the directions thereon. I did not expect them to disclose publicly these payments, nor did I intend for them or want them to do so. The necessary outcome of our actions was that Sorensen, Bryant and Lawson cast votes with a conflict of interest of which the public was not aware.

On approximately March 23, 1994, I hand-delivered \$15,000 cash to Leif Sorensen. I obtained the funds by negotiating for cash a Williamsburg Manor check in the amount of \$15,215.17. On the check I wrote "cc Scaffolding & Planks, etc." I negotiated this check with the false notation on it so that I would not be connected to the money, and the amount could be deducted as a business expense.

In sum, from approximately February 1991 to approximately August 1995, I and others, including Patrick Fortune, made up a plan to deprive the City of Clovis and its citizens of their right to honest services. I acted with the intent to deprive the City of Clovis and its citizens of their right to honest services. And I caused someone to use the mails to carry out or to attempt to carry out the plan.

#### Information - Count One

In or about December 1993, in the Eastern District of California, I, a resident of Clovis, California, did willfully aid and assist in the preparation and presentation to the Internal Revenue Service of a U.S. Corporation Income Tax Return, Form 1120, of Williamsburg Manor, Inc. for the fiscal year ended March 1993, which was false and fraudulent as to a material matter, in that the tax return underreported total income by approximately \$58,840, and overstated expenses by approximately \$8,560, as I then and there well knew and believed. Pat Fortune and I split the proceeds of PG&E refund checks for Williamsburg Manor, which we negotiated for cash, and I knowingly and willfully failed to report the proceeds on the Williamsburg Manor tax return or on my personal income tax return so that I would not have to pay taxes on them. The refund checks for that year that we split totalled approximately \$58,840. I also caused to be deducted by Williamsburg Manor campaign contributions totalling approximately \$8,560 which were not actually deductible business expenses, and did so in order to reduce the taxes that had to be paid.

In the same way, Pat Fortune and I diverted PG&E refund checks for Williamsburg Manor in fiscal years ending March 1992 and March 1994. I also diverted PG&E refund checks for Hamel Development for

1 fiscal year ending September 1993, September 1994, and September  
2 1995. In fiscal years ending March 1992 and March 1994, I also  
3 caused to be deducted by Williamsburg Manor campaign contributions  
4 which were not actually deductible business expenses. I took these  
5 steps to avoid paying taxes.

6 Information - Count Two

7 In or about November 1992, while a resident of Clovis,  
8 California in the Eastern District of California, I did knowingly  
9 and fraudulently make a false declaration under penalty of perjury  
10 as to the following material matters, in and in relation to the  
11 matter of In re Jerry M. Hamel, a voluntary bankruptcy petition  
12 under Chapter 11, later converted to Chapter 7 of Title 11 of the  
13 United States Code. I caused the petition to be filed in the United  
14 States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of Utah, as Case  
15 Number 92-26832, on or about October 23, 1992. The false  
16 declarations were that:

17 (1) I had no income, whereas, in truth and in fact and as I  
18 then and there well knew, I received income from Hamel Development,  
19 and was entitled to receive up to \$120,000 a year from Hamel  
20 Development;

21 (2) I had not transferred any property, other than property  
22 transferred in the ordinary course of my business or financial  
23 affairs, whereas, in truth and in fact and as I then and there well  
24 knew, I had transferred seven pieces of property to an entity known  
25 as KMA within six months of filing bankruptcy;

26 (3) I had a single checking account containing \$2,300, whereas,  
27 in truth and in fact and as I then and there well knew, I had a  
28 checking account with Bank of the West containing over \$60,000 in  
it.

JUN-11-1996 14:51

FBI SACRAMENTO

916 977 2300 P.01/08



## FBI FACSIMILE

## COVERSHEET

### PRECEDENCE

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Subject: Rezone

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(June 1 and 2) More to come!

194B-SC-23710

■ SATURDAY  
June 1, 1996

# The Fresno Bee

Central California's leading newspaper

■ FINAL  
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## FBI case: More names surface

■ Lobbyist's testimony includes Lung, five ex-Fresno council members.

By Anne Dudley Ellis, Tom Kertscher  
and Angela Valdivia Rush  
The Fresno Bee

Behind his back, folks around Fresno City Hall used to call development lobbyist Jeffrey T. Roberts the bagman — the guy who traded a cash-filled envelope for the council votes he needed.

Turns out those whispers of the late 1980s and early 1990s were true, according to Roberts' own admissions.

In statements to federal officials investigating political corruption in Fresno and Clo-

The Operation Rezone trial is scheduled to start Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Fresno.

vis, Roberts describes routinely delivering cash and valuables to Fresno City Council members who were expected to then approve projects.

Roberts' statements implicate current Fresno City Council Member Bob Lung and five former Fresno council members — Dale Daig, Craig Scharon, Robert Smith, Esther Padilla and Les Kimber.

His assertions are expected to be scrutinized during the first trial in the FBI investi-

gation, called Operation Rezone. The trial of former Clovis City Council Member Leif Sorensen and four others is scheduled to begin Tuesday in federal court in Fresno.

Although none of the current and former Fresno council members named in the statements has been charged with Rezone crimes, Roberts is expected to testify about his dealings with them. Roberts has pleaded guilty to aiding in extortion and is providing testimony in hopes of reducing his sentence.

Perhaps more than any disclosures to date in Operation Rezone, the Roberts statements portray a climate in which developers in need of a vote just dipped into their wallets.

Please see Rezone, back page



Jeffrey T. Roberts said he routinely delivered cash to Fresno council members.

Rezone trial  
Sacramento

Excerpts from interviews federal authorities conducted with lobbyist Jeffrey T. Roberts in July and August 1995 and April 1996.

### Fresno City Council Bob Lung

"He recalled he and (business partner Jim) Logan were approached by Fresno Council Member Bob Lung to pick up the expenses for a room that was going to be rented at the Piccadilly Inn where Lung was going to hold a fund raiser (on March 11, 1993). He said Lung's campaign consultant, ... had assumed they would pay for the bill and when they were present-



Bob Lung

ed with some while they didn't want to, they ultimately paid for it because they did not want to get into an argument. Roberts thought the room cost approximately \$350.

"Roberts said he recalled another occasion when (developer) Jon Thomason asked him to deliver an envelope to ... Lung, which at the time he thought was unusual. He said he didn't ask and Thomason did not volunteer what was in the envelope, but he suspected it contained money. ... At the time the envelope was delivered to Lung, Thomason was involved in a controversial issue concerning access to Herndon Avenue.

### Former Fresno City Council members Dale Doig

"Roberts was questioned by investigators as to when and how



Dale Doig

he first thought he could pass cash to Fresno election officials and he responded sometime during 1994-95. He asked Logan how he might be able to obtain the support of (former Mayor) Dale Doig. Logan suggested he give Doig \$200 cash. Roberts said after a particular Fresno City Council hearing, he presented Doig with the \$200 in cash (in restaurant of El Torito restaurant) and Doig kept some just as Logan had suggested. Based on the advice he received from Logan, Roberts said it was obvious Logan had given cash to Doig in the past.

### Craig Scharton

"Roberts said he was present when Jim Logan passed cash to ... Craig Scharton who had come to the office a leading for some money because he couldn't afford to pay a car repair bill. Scharton said he was in the middle of a divorce and because



Craig Scharton

his car needed shocks and brakes, unless he paid the bill he would not be able to retrieve same from the repair shop. Roberts said the incident had occurred sometime during the late 1980s and while Scharton didn't exhibit the repair bill to anyone he said he needed \$300 or else he would not be able to retrieve his vehicle. Roberts thought Scharton had come to them on numerous occasions asking for help on one thing or another and because they would need Scharton's support on the City Council they were willing to help him out.

"Roberts recalled on another

occasion Scharton needed a set of tires for a Jeep and because Roberts had the same type of vehicle along with a set of tires gave him his old set.

"Roberts remembered on another occasion Fresno developer Jon Thomason wanted to buy a Harley Davidson motorcycle and sell it to Scharton under very reasonable terms. ... Scharton really liked the bike when he was given same by Thomason which was just prior to his re-election bid but because he lost the election he was not able to make the payments even under the original terms provided by Thomason.

"Since Scharton had lost the election and he was not able to make the payments, Thomason subsequently recovered the bike. ... On another matter, Roberts recalled Jon Thomason paying for a trip to Las Vegas where Craig Scharton, Jim Logan, and himself stayed at the Mirage Hotel."

### Robert Smith

"Roberts advised in 1992 he was approached by Bob Smith who wanted cash. Smith needed



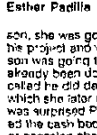
Robert Smith

\$250 which he gave him. The meeting took place at Omaha's restaurant located at the intersection of Shields and Blackstone avenues and he advised

the cash he provided to Smith, he also gave him half a case of Scotch."

### Esther Padilla

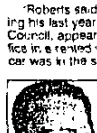
"Roberts recalled when he was helping Thomason secure support on the Herndon Avenue access, Thomason told him not to worry about getting the support of Esther Padilla, another Fresno City Councilwoman, because he had already secured same. ... According to Thomason, she was going to support the project and whatever Thomason was going to do for her had already been done. Roberts recalled he did deliver Padilla cash which she later returned. Roberts was surprised Padilla had returned the cash because on an earlier occasion she kept same. On the second occasion, Thomason provided to her \$1,000 which, again, she returned. Thomason told Roberts he was surprised Padilla had returned the money."



Esther Padilla

### Les Kimber

"Roberts said Les Kimber, during his last year on the City Council, appeared at Roberts' office in a rented van and said his car was in the shop for repairs. Roberts said Kimber asked him and Logan to pay the bill and buy an ad in his newspaper, the California Advocate.



Les Kimber

"Roberts said Logan gave Kimber a check for several hundred dollars. ... Roberts said Kimber had previously requested money, usually a couple of hundred dollars, and that he and Logan had paid because they were concerned that their failure to do so might result in a retaliation against a project that they might have had pending before the City Council."

## Roberts, Logan known for influence

By Anne Dudley Ellis  
and Angela Valdivia Rusk  
The Fresno Bee

Jeffrey T. Roberts and James W. Logan have been regulars in City Council offices for years, establishing a solid reputation for getting the zoning or plan changes their clients needed on development projects.

"They have been much more successful than was good for the city," said Selma Layne, treasurer of the Woodward Park Homeowners Association.

Neither could be reached Friday to comment.

Logan was a city planning commissioner and then a member of the City Council from 1969 to 1972. After leaving the council, he started his own planning consultant business.

Roberts is the grandson of the planning director for Los An-

gles in the 1950s and 1960s. He worked as a planner for Fresno County for a little more than a year beginning in 1978 before opening his own consulting business in 1980. He and Logan became partners in 1985.

"They were a tag team for so long," said former Council Member Rod Anaforian.

Some examples of the two consultants' influence over the years include:

■ In February 1988, Roberts was able to persuade the council to approve a small shopping center at the southwest corner of Nee and Cedar avenues, despite the objections of Anaforian, who represented the district. The corner was supposed to have only a mini-market and Johnny Quik corporate offices.

■ In the summer of 1993, Roberts lobbied the council for

direct traffic access onto Herndon Avenue property owned by developer Jon Thomason. After public outcry, the council rejected the plan.

■ In January 1994, Roberts on behalf of developer Gary McDonald, persuaded the council to approve 80 apartments on Woodrow Avenue just south of Shaw Avenue, despite vehement neighbor opposition.

■ In July 1994, Logan successfully lobbied the council to allow a Johnny Quik at Spruce and Herndon avenues, over the objections of 40 residents at the meeting and a petition signed by more than 400.

■ In the summer of 1994, Roberts successfully lobbied on behalf of Thomason so he could build several homes on what is known as Scout Island on the San Joaquin River.

## Rezone: Additional names surface

Continued from Page A1

The relationship was symbiotic. Some council members seemed to count on developers as their piggy bank.

In one instance, Lung allegedly loaned on developers to pay a \$350 hotel bill. Lung said Friday that he knew nothing about that.

Other council members allegedly pleaded for — and received — cash for car repairs. One council member reportedly left a fund-raising event and was handed the keys to a Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

State law prohibits direct cash contributions of \$100 or more to candidates or officials.

A spokeswoman for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Sacramento said it had no comment on Roberts' statements.

But at least two of the alleged money-takers on Friday questioned Roberts' motives in speaking to the FBI.

"There is a lot of officious in the atmosphere for obvious reasons," former Mayor and Council Member Dale Doig said Friday.

Added former Council Member Les Kimber, "Under no circumstances would I ask anybody for any money to fix my car. Isn't that sort of petty? If I were to ask for money, it would be a hell of a lot more than to fix my car with. That is stupid."

Operation Rezone sources have said that Lung, Padilla and Scharton have been investigated but not charged. The only elected official in Fresno to be charged in Rezone is Smith, who in March pleaded guilty to extorting \$10,500 from developer Jon Thomason.

Lung, who is seeking re-election in November, has been linked to Operation Rezone by a controversial loan arranged for him by Thomason. But the new allegations suggest Lung sought other favors.

Roberts told the FBI that Lung asked him and his business partner, James Logan, to pay for a room at the Piccadilly Inn, where a Lung campaign fund-raiser was held March 11, 1993. Roberts said he gave Lung or his campaign aide \$350 for the room, and that Lung later thanked him.

On another occasion, Roberts told the FBI, developer Thomason asked him to deliver an envelope to Lung. Roberts said he did not know what was in the envelope, but suspected it was money and gave it to Lung in his council office.

Lung said Friday he knew

nothing about his campaign's asking Roberts and Logan to pay for the Piccadilly room and denied getting an envelope of cash from Roberts on behalf of Thomason.

"I got stuff all the time in envelopes — maps, letters and stuff," Lung said. "It could be a confidential letter, too."

Of Roberts' statements to the FBI, Thomason would say only that "out of respect for everyone involved in the investigation, on all sides, I will reserve any comments I'll make for the courtroom."

Thomason has been providing information to Operation Rezone investigators as part of an immunity-from-prosecution agreement.

Among the former City Council members, Scharton, who served on the council from 1987 to 1991, received the most favors, according to Roberts.

Scharton could not be reached Friday to comment.

Roberts told the FBI he saw his partner Logan give cash to Scharton in the late 1980s after Scharton approached them "pleading" for \$300 for a car repair bill.

Logan could not be reached Friday to comment.

Roberts said Scharton came to him and his partner "on numerous occasions asking for help," and the two complied "because they would need Scharton's support on the City Council," according to Roberts' statements to the FBI.

On another occasion, Roberts told the FBI, Scharton needed tires for his jeep and Roberts gave him the set from his own jeep.

Roberts said Thomason also bought a Harley-Davidson motorcycle and sold it to Scharton "under very reasonable terms" just before Scharton's failed re-election bid in 1991.

Roberts said an entity called CTL Leasing was created for the motorcycle's registration to conceal its real owner.

According to Roberts' statements, Roberts said Thomason "had various construction projects pending before the Fresno City Council" and the motorcycle was "a big happy pill" that Scharton could just not refuse.

Smith, who served on the council from 1981 to 1994, received \$250 from Roberts in 1992, according to Roberts' statement.

Roberts said he gave Smith the money and a half case of Scotch

at a Denny's Restaurant at Blackstone and Shields avenues after Smith called to ask for money.

Roberts also said he had given Smith money from a restaurant that was seeking city approval for a drive-through lane.

Roberts told the FBI that he did not mind helping Smith because Smith voted for Roberts' projects "approximately 95 percent of the time."

Smith's lawyer, Samuel Norman, said Friday "that is the political process ... money exchanging hands. (Roberts) says (Smith) supported his stuff, so he wants to support him."

Doig, who served as mayor and council member between 1973 and 1989, received \$200 cash from Roberts in the mid-1980s, according to Roberts' admissions. Doig said Friday that outside of legal campaign contributions, he never received any money from Roberts or Logan.

Kimber, who served on the council from 1983 to 1991, drove to the Logan-Roberts office in a rented van one day during his last year in office, Roberts told the FBI. Roberts said Kimber asked the lobbyists if they could pay the car repair bill for his Cadillac and buy an ad in his newspaper, the California Advocate.

Roberts said Logan wrote out a check, amounting to "several hundred dollars," made out to the dealership that had done the repairs.

Roberts said Kimber had periodically approached him and Logan for money. He said they had paid out of fear of jeopardizing their projects.

Kimber said Friday that Roberts bought tickets to his campaign fund-raisers but denied pressuring Roberts or Logan for cash or to buy advertisements.

Padilla, who was on the council from 1991 to 1994, took money but returned it, according to Roberts. Roberts told the FBI he was surprised she had returned it because she had taken money before.

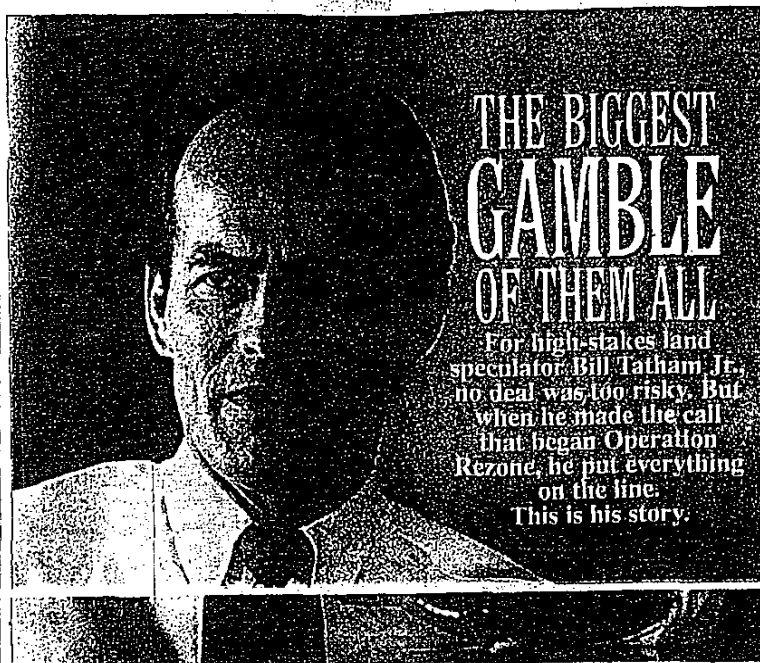
Padilla could not be reached Friday to comment.

Roberts did not paint all politicians in the same light.

He told the FBI, for example, that Fresno Mayor Jim Patterson had never asked him for money in exchange for votes on council issues. He described Patterson as a "straight, nice guy."

# The Fresno Bee

Central California's leading newspaper



## THE BIGGEST GAMBLE OF THEM ALL

For high-stakes land speculator Bill Tatham Jr., no deal was too risky. But when he made the call that began Operation Rezone, he put everything on the line. This is his story.

Photo by John Walker — The Fresno Bee

By Russell Clemings  
The Fresno Bee

**B**ill Tatham had just pulled himself out of bed and dressed for his daily trip to the gym when the phone rang.

Still groggy, he padded downstairs and took the call in the kitchen of his Bluff Drive condo, leaving his wife, Susan, asleep in the bedroom. It was not quite 7 a.m.

The caller was Jeff Roberts, a consultant helping Tatham rezone 40 acres of farmland at Barstow and Temperance avenues. The night before, the Clovis City Council had voted on the issue. Tatham had more than \$100,000 riding on the outcome.

Roberts did not bring good news.

"Bill, it didn't pass," he said. He blamed Lell Sorenson, leader of the five-member council's pro-development majority, who had surprisingly voted against it.

"Lell came right out of the blue and was very aggressive," Roberts said, "and no one knows why."

Tatham's empty stomach tied itself into a knot. His option on the land would expire soon, and without the rezoning, he had no hope of breaking even.

Suddenly, Tatham envisioned his bankroll — the small fortune

he had built in five years of gut-check poker with the big builders on metropolitan Fresno's exploding fringe — going "poof" overnight.

He told Roberts to fix it.

A few hours later, Roberts called back with the rest of the story. Sorenson would change his vote, he told Tatham, in return for a \$10,000 contribution to three allies in the upcoming Clovis elections.

Please see Tatham, Page A12

## FBI's government corruption case heads to court



Six people were indicted Aug. 1, 1995, on corruption and extortion charges, including Clovis City Council Member Lell C. Sorenson. Charges stem from an alleged attempt to extort money from Bill Tatham Jr. in 1994.

### INSIDE

- Key players caught in the FBI's net. **Page A13**
- Lell C. Sorenson prepares for a "very emotional" trial, scheduled to begin Tuesday. **Page A14**
- Will the trial reveal the underbelly of local politics and back-room dealing? Or is it an overzealous government investigation? **Page A15**

# Tatham: From child's play to adult's work, the game was always cutthroat

Continued from Page A1

Tatham told Roberts to offer \$7,500 instead. This, he thought to himself, is like buying over a used car. Angelo started to build.

Who did Stevenson think he was, to issue this kind of ultimatum? Did he think Tatham was weak? Some kind of dilettante who would smile halfheartedly, take his losses, and settle for half a loaf instead of none?

"This was a lot of wilds, Tatham decided, and he was determined to win."

The wife asked him what he was going to do. "Screw 'em," he said.

## Days of 'Wild Bill'

Until that chilly morning in January 1934, few would have predicted that Bill Tatham would turn out to be a man of such enormous fortune. He was an underdog for the FBI and because the chief witness in the biggest government corruption case in nation in the San Joaquin Valley in generations. Tatham was then 36, owner of one of the Valley's wealthiest families, and a man who did almost nothing in moderation. He played hard, drove expensive cars, and routinely bet huge sums on risk, volatile and volatile deals.

And even those who knew him well, he was either a great friend or bitter enemy and seldom anything in between.

He spent his childhood in a farmhouse in Fresno, about 15 miles north of downtown Fresno. His father, Bill Tatham Sr., born in McFarland in Oklahoma, emigrant parents, would eventually build a nine figure net worth in the mining home business, creating a large shade over his three children and the entire Tatham clan.

But back then, the Tathams were just another family, and Bill Jr. was just another lower middle class small town kid, athletic and precocious but unremarkable.

When he reached seventh grade, his new grade, getting family moved to a house on Santa Avenue west of First Avenue in downtown Fresno.

There was a Cherokee on the corner in the Tatham block, and that made their presence known in the young Bill Tatham's high forehead and dark eyes and hair, which he combed neatly in the middle.

When he crested his horse into his American flag crew, he went and walked into Terra Middle School, his new classroom, where he was a star in the talkative, flamboyant character, "son of the game" calling him "Wild Bill".

As a junior on the varsity football team at Bullard High School in the early 1930s, Wild Bill made all stars and was generally considered the best running back in the city.

Bullard ran a machine offense, and when Tatham wasn't running he had to block. Even at the high school level, this was an odd feat for a player who stood 5 feet 9 and weighed 160 pounds.

Tatham compensated for his size by working as things that he could control, such as technique. He listened when his coaches told him how to bring down a much larger player by using his blocks low, pointing his head and shoulders at the other player's thighs, tying him up so he couldn't run.

He tried to play with his opponent's hands too, resorting to psychological tactics when his physical skills weren't enough.

"I would call it trickery," said one teammate, Mark Malloy, now a Fresno chiropractor. "He would look like he was trying to knock the guy out, and then he'd do it. He was always trying to get on top of them. Then he'd just cut their legs out."

One of Tatham's favorite pastimes was the board game Risk, which pitted players against each other in a series of strategic moves and a world domination.

The game was serious, and Tatham was a monster. His concentration was total. With each roll of the dice, he would pull the dice and roll the strategy to match.

## A natural horse rider

In later years, Tatham got an accounting degree from California State University, Fresno, and his high school sweetheart, a classmate, and moved to Malibu to attend his school of Paperhouse University. But part of him rebelled against the idea of spending his life sitting for hours in the tax code.

That first year at Paperhouse, Tatham wrote to the FBI and asked for a job. The interview and he got well, but then he became convinced that the FBI would expect him to drop out of school and work immediately, he followed hard and told no thanks. He wondered whether he would regret it.

Between classes, Tatham amused himself with some profitable side businesses. A natural horse breeder, he would own the classifieds every morning for years, buying and selling and creating an early 1930s version of a Xerox, Jaguar and many others.

He also dealt in exotic weapons, semi-automatic MAG-38 and Luger. Some of his customers were the type who didn't like a lot of questions, but Tatham was the one who did the talking. He loved the look and feel, the feeling of it and his adventures.

After his school, Tatham tried to settle down, re-putting in Fresno and landing a job with a law firm. But he was not content.

In 1934, his father bought an expensive franchise in the United States Football League, and Bill Tatham, called the Tatham Outlaws, and asked Tatham to join it.

The first season brought little glory; the Outlaws finished in 12th place with three wins, more than the rest of the team. But Tatham had the time of his life.

At the end of the season, the Tathams joined Tatham for the first time in Fresno, where Tatham was a star.

Tatham Jr. and his wife divorced, his possessions with the team were sold, and how to a man who had been closely from the market.

In Fresno, Tatham met Susan McFarland, a former beauty queen whom the Outlaws had loved in his marketing. But the team's fortunes did not improve, and the USFL, for a year it was a losing proposition, was in August 1936.

Tatham moved in Fresno another year, trying to land an FBI job, but he was not successful. In January 1937, Bill Tatham moved his family to the Arizona desert and the door to a new chapter closed.

Disappointed, Tatham returned to Fresno,



His field. Bill Tatham Sr. stands in the middle of the 40-acre parcel (land and at Bartow and Temperance avenues — its property that he lost in the FBI's Operation Barons investigation. Tatham had more than \$100,000 riding on the outcome of a zoning vote from the Fresno City Council in early 1934. It was after the vote that City Council member L. C. Searns allegedly attempted to bribe Tatham for money from Tatham.

Photos by John Walker The Fresno Press



Family time. Bill Tatham Sr. and his wife, Susan, walk past dog, Rocco, near their Fresno home.



Father's advice. Bill Tatham Sr., left, with his son Bill at the Consolidated Land Co. office where Tatham told his father about Searns' demands. The elder Tatham initially advised against getting involved.

by virtue of the Outlaws' losses on San Devil Stadium.

He brought briefs about staying in football, either by getting up shop or a player agent or trying to get an NFL front office job.

He also considered running his law practice. But by that time, Tatham was in his early 30s, and he had spent his brief time with the law firm, he had spent his adult life working for his father.

He wanted to assert his independence, striking out on his own by applying his horse-trading skills to the high-stakes world of real estate.

He quickly found that it didn't take a whole lot of cash to be successful. Some of the deals he made were known for in the city.

In one of his first deals, he found a debt-ridden farmer who owned 57 acres on the northwest corner of Shaw and Temperance avenues. He paid the farmer \$2,400,000, but only \$25,000 was cash. The rest was a promissory note, which the farmer promptly signed over to his lender.

Tatham moved more than a dozen other properties through his portfolio like some guy — paying little or nothing down and carrying a lot of paper.

He would pick up an option for \$10,000 or so, then find a buyer who was willing to pay slightly more a few months later. He would buy properties out of bankruptcy, then sell them at a profit.

He developed a knack for finding sellers who were in no position to drive a hard bargain. He would move in and tell them out, acquiring distressed or overlooked properties at a steep discount and then selling them at a profit.

He treated real estate like a poker game, managing one position and waiting for the next. Nothing then looking off, always angling for an advantage.

He developed a reputation for bottom feeding — and for being aggressive, even predatory, in his business dealings.

He spent a lot of time in court.

## Angling to protect himself

Before closing on the Shaw and Temperance deal, Tatham signed a joint venture agreement with Herbert Cox, a home-building company owned by a childhood friend, Bill and Helen Cox.

Within a year, the joint venture fell apart. Tatham and Cox had no friends in common, and Tatham was not a fan of Cox's. Cox was a man of few words, and Tatham was a man of many.

Whatever the truth, when the case went to trial, Tatham and Cox were both found guilty of perjury. Cox was sentenced to prison, and Tatham was sentenced to a year in prison.

agreed to sell the property to Marshall's Preparative House.

Their agreement called for Marshall to "prepare in a diligent and expeditious manner" to get final subdivision approval from the city and close the deal. Tatham's estate was scheduled to come in August 1934, if they couldn't close by then, he would lose the \$200,000 he had paid toward the purchase.

Within a few months, Tatham grew nervous. He began paying Marshall more money. "He'd just show up in my office unannounced," Marshall said. "He'd come in wearing his little black shoes and just play himself down."

Marshall thought Tatham just needed to calm his nerves and give her enough time to pull together the paperwork. But Tatham suspected Marshall was running out of money. Angling to protect his investment, he asked to be released from their agreement.

Eventually, the deal was canceled in a settlement. Marshall's company went into a liquidation and never recovered.

## Tough negotiator

Conflicts like these were common in Tatham's land deals, but they didn't really trouble him. He figured they were just the territory.

He would himself be a tough negotiator. He felt it was his duty to get the best deal he could, that was the way the system worked. You didn't put points for being a nice guy.

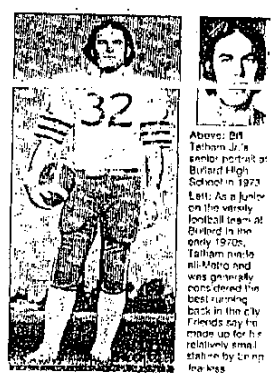
And the lawsuits? That was just the nature of the real estate business, he believed. People had no truck money riding on these deals that they couldn't pay over their differences.

Still, something else ate at him. He was making a lot of money, but all that proved, he joked, was that even a turkey can fly into a strong headwind. Tatham was not a man who liked to be pushed around.

And when it was all over, even if he had made more than a million, he knew. When the O'Leary deal was a great, intriguing thought that was, it had made the front of the sports section and the top of the TV news. When he had scored a touchdown for the Fresno State football team, the local had played.

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Above: Bill Tatham Jr. in a senior portrait at Bullard High School in 1933. Left: As a junior on the varsity football team at Bullard in the early 1930s, Tatham made all stars and was generally considered the best running back in the city. Friends say he was a man who did the talking. He loved the look and feel, the feeling of it and his adventures.

**William Tatham Jr.**

Born Dec. 12, 1934, Salina

**PERSONAL**

- Married Sharon Joseph, 1970
- Divorced, 1984
- Married Susan McFarland, 1986
- No children

**EDUCATION**

- Graduated Bullard High School, 1953
- Bachelor of Science, accounting, California State University, Fresno, 1958
- Juris Doctor, Pepperdine University, 1961

**EMPLOYMENT**

- Accountant, Arthur Young & Co. 1961
- Attorney, Kimble McElhiney Lupton, 1961-63
- President, Consolidated Sports (Oklahoma)





OPERATION REZUNES: TRIAL HEADS TO COURT

# Tatham: Some question motive

From Page A13

"What, this?" Tatham decided to bluff. He started scripping the notebook and kept talking. He felt disconnected from the scene, as though he was watching it unfold from a seat in a theater. "Well... no," Tatham said, "look, I'm not... I'm not a tape recorder. I'm not taping. I wanted to get out and find out what the deal is. I wanted to know what was going on..."

He seemed to be in a daze. "Well, I don't know. I mean there, there..."

He kept talking as the sunlight dimmed. Tatham was visibly nervous about what was happening. Though he couldn't have known about the involvement at that point, it was clear that something was up.

Tatham patted him. Roberts wasn't the bad guy, he just the middleman, but there wasn't much Tatham could do to protect him without jeopardizing the investigation. The FBI was calling the show. He just hoped that when the time came he would decide to cooperate.

He and another FBI agent visited Roberts Sorenson at home over the weekend. Monday morning, Tatham's secret was out. By Tuesday, news of the investigation was all over the local media.

He next month, Sorenson's candidates lost by a slim margin, destroying the Clovis City Council's pro-growth bias.

Tatham got his phone calls postponed until May. It was approved 3-1. Sorenson abstained on advice of his lawyer.

The investigation broadened. In August, Kaufman and Broad announced that it had fired the head of Fresno office, Richard Clarkowski, for "financially generating a check" for \$10,000 to buy men's vote for sewer service on a proposed street and Broad project at Fowler and Aslan avenues.

On June 23, 1993, Roberts pleaded guilty to acts of aiding and abetting extortion and filing a false return. Sorenson, Williams and four others were indicted on corruption-related charges.

Sorenson resigned his council seat. Three more were indicted in January. Another in March. Meanwhile, rumors were flying around Fresno of Tatham and his involvement in the investigation.

He said the whole thing was a plot by the mafia to cripple the city's biggest developers, ensure the success of Copper River, which was the biggest residential development he had ever seen. Others theorized that Tatham



"It is difficult for people to get involved. That is the difference with Bill Tatham. He decided to come forward."

Jim Wedick, FBI agent

had been coerced into cooperating by either the FBI or the IRS, which must have had evidence of some crime that he had committed.

The day after Roberts entered his guilty plea, Tatham was at home in an old farmhouse that he and Susan had bought the year before on pricey North Van Ness Boulevard. He turned on the radio to catch the afternoon talk show on KJLH.

The subject was the investigation. The guest host, former Fresno City Council Member Red Anaforian, was talking about some of the blotches on Tatham's record: the loan to Patterson's campaign, University Village.

Someone asked Anaforian how the investigation got started. Did Tatham go to the FBI, or did the FBI have some dirt on him? Anaforian said he didn't know, and he left the question hanging in the air, unanswered. Tatham cringed.

In defense of a star witness

Elsewhere in Fresno, Wedick was listening on his car radio as he hurried to yet another appointment in his suddenly fast-moving investigation.

From the day of that first trip down Highway 99, Wedick had never entertained doubts about Tatham's motives or veracity. Tatham fit a mold that Wedick had seen before. He wasn't a saint, or a white knight, but just an ordinary businessman who had been the victim of an extortion attempt and decided to do something about it.

True, most people in Tatham's situation would have walked away instead of going to the FBI, but that was only because they had too much to lose. The one thing that set Tatham apart was his ego, and his willingness to risk his livelihood to set up on it.

Wedick picked up the phone and dialed the radio station.

He first appealed for other members of the public to come forward, as Tatham had done, and help investigators focus their efforts.

Then Wedick rose to the defense of his star witness.

Suggestions that Tatham somehow had gotten himself into trouble and was helping the FBI to save his own skin were not true, Wedick told Anaforian's listeners.

Whatever else people might think of him, Wedick said, Tatham deserved credit for taking the stand that he did.

"It is difficult for people to get involved. That is the difference with Bill Tatham. He decided to come forward."

# Sorenson confident in his story

Ex-council member defends his position as a newcomer to the political game.

By Angela Veldivina Rush  
The Fresno Bee

Leif Sorenson maintains his innocence, but the possibility of spending part of his life in prison does grow at him as Tuesday draws near.

That is when the federal government is scheduled to begin trying to prove in court that Sorenson was a corrupt politician.

Allegations that then-Clovis City Council Member Sorenson had tried to extort a bribe from land speculator Bill Tatham Jr. sparked the Operation Rescue federal investigation into political corruption in Clovis and Fresno.

In August 1993, Sorenson was indicted and charged with extortion, racketeering, money laundering and witness tampering. Five months later, he was indicted again and charged with mail fraud. The witness tampering charges from the first indictment were later dropped.

Last week, Sorenson said he was glad to see the trial starting.

"I know it will be intense and very emotional, but it's part of the healing process that I need to have," he said. "Being able to tell my story... that is important to me."

He said the days of worry, nervousness and a constant sick feeling are gone as he works with his lawyer, Roger Nuttall, on the details of trial preparation.

Confident

Sorenson said he is confident the jury will believe his story. That he was a naive newcomer to politics. He was used. Sucked into a crew and fast world of politics by others who have been playing dirty for decades.

Sorenson's blunt style has changed little from his days on the Clovis City Council. He resigned Aug. 15, 24 weeks after being indicted.

He talks about being an insurance businessman with a long history for Clovis and strong beliefs about how he could make it better.

Jerry M. Brunel, a friend and business associate, first asked Sorenson to run for a seat on the Clovis council. The first time Brunel asked Sorenson, he refused. He was too busy raising his four children and building his insurance business.

But Brunel — who has since been indicted in Operation Rescue — persuaded Sorenson in the fall of 1991.

Catching many by surprise, Sorenson won a seat on the council in April 1992. He ran an aggressive campaign that targeted the incumbents, praised the good of term limits and privatization.

It was not long before Sorenson had found new friends, including developers Patrick R. Fortune and Jon C. Thompson and lobbyist Jeffrey T. Roberts. They closed his way of thinking, Sorenson said.

"What was foremost in my mind is that we had a



Mark Croshaw — The Fresno Bee

"There were two clear divisions between the project and any conversation of raising money for candidates. I never combined the two."

Leif C. Sorenson, ex-council member

community that had a lot of opportunity in terms of expansion, growth and modernization," he said. "They saw that and fueled it."

Sorenson and his lawyer maintain that Rob a key government witness, cannot be believed. Sorenson was the middleman in the alleged extortion attempt involving Sorenson and Tatham.

"I really view the problem as being Jeff Rob and the type of person he is. The job that he did Nuttall said. "He has to play both ends against middle. He is kind of a chameleon in the sense he changes depending upon who he is talking. This will come out in the trial."

Four judgments

Sorenson said he had never asked, required, told Tatham or Roberts that he wanted \$10,000 from Tatham before he would vote for his project.

"There were two clear divisions between the project and any conversation of raising money for candidates," he said. "I never combined the two."

Sorenson said the thousands of pages of documents and testimony by many, including Roberts, are key to the trial and will provide the evidence he needs.

"Despite the publicity, I know what I have done," Sorenson said. "No criminal wrong has been done. There could have been some poor advice but I haven't done anything criminal."

**Final Day June 16th**

**James Allen Diamond Center is GOING OUT OF BUSINESS**

**Our Entire Inventory of Diamonds Has Been Drastically Reduced and Will Be Liquidated**

Stock No.	Description	Weight	Color	Clarity	Retail Price	Sale Price
4465	Marquise	1.11	F	SI	15,500.00	6,310.00
5353	Round	0.49	<b>SOLD</b>		2,600.00	1,040.00
1594K	Round	0.85	F	SI	10,740.00	4,296.00
5344	Round	1.01	<b>SOLD</b>		14,000.00	6,560.00
5313	Oval	1.05	D	SI	11,000.00	4,400.00

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## The road to a Rezone trial

The Clovis City Council member Leif C. Sorenson and four others were indicted Aug. 1, 1995. Prosecutors maintain that these events led to the filing of criminal charges.

■ **August 1992:** Sorenson, with the help of real estate salesman Jack L. Williams, allegedly solicited a \$100,000 bribe from a company, believed to be the holding company of Kaufman & Broad, in exchange for supporting a rezoning of the town and Commerce avenues.

■ **September 1993:** Sorenson allegedly solicited a \$100,000 campaign contribution from the developer of the National Commerce property, Bill Tatham Jr.

■ **January 1994:** Sorenson allegedly solicited a \$100,000 bribe from a company, believed to be the holding company of Kaufman & Broad, in exchange for supporting a rezoning of the town and Commerce avenues.

■ **February 1994:** Sorenson allegedly solicited a \$100,000 bribe from a company, believed to be the holding company of Kaufman & Broad, in exchange for supporting a rezoning of the town and Commerce avenues.

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# Prosecutors say they have a 'very strong case'

Outcome of the first Rezone trial may set the stage for the rest.

By Jerry Bier  
The Fresno Bee

After months of talk, headlines and legal maneuvering, the first of the Operation Rezone cases in the FBI's two-year investigation of public corruption in Clovis and Fresno is scheduled to go to trial Tuesday.

Will it reveal an underbelly of local politics in which planning decisions were made in back rooms and developers could buy votes? Or is Operation Rezone an overzealous government investigation that equated legitimate political contributions with corruption?

On trial are former Clovis City Council Member Leif C. Sorenson and four others. Sorenson, who faces charges of racketeering, extortion, and money laundering, is the prosecution's primary target.

The first Operation Rezone prosecution involves Assistant U.S. Attorney John K. Vincent and Jim Wodick, the FBI special agent who inspired the Sorenson investigation of Capitol corruption that resulted in the convictions of one state lawmaker.

Vincent was the lead prosecutor on the last round of the Capitol case.

He will be joined in the Fresno trial by U.S. Attorney Charles J. Stevens, who took his oath of office in Fresno 24 years ago.

Tuesday's trial is the first major public corruption prosecution by Stevens, 35, of Sacramento, and some observers believe its outcome will determine the future investigative enthusiasm of Operation Rezone.

**A strong case**

Vincent was reluctant to talk about the jury trial, expected to take a month. U.S. District Court Judge Officer R. Wanger will preside.

"I don't like to comment before a trial," said the soft-spoken Vincent, "but I think we have a very strong case and we're going to do the best we can."

The Operation Rezone investi-



Tangled Jeffrey T. Roberts leaves federal court June 29, 1995, after pleading guilty to helping Leif C. Sorenson extort funds.

gation has resulted in four guilty pleas — two from the development industry, one from a former Clovis mayor and another from a former Fresno City Council member.

And the man who started it all, Bill Tatham Jr., will head a witness list in the trial that includes developer lobbyist Jeffrey T. Roberts, once one of the most influential players in the local development business.

Tatham first went to the FBI with an allegation that Sorenson had demanded \$10,000 for a zoning vote.

But it was a guilty plea by Roberts nearly a year ago, when he admitted he had helped attempt to extort \$10,000 from Tatham, that built steam for the corruption investigation.

Barely a month after Roberts admitted guilt, the first Operation Rezone indictment charged Sorenson, developer Patrick R. Fortune, developer lobbyist Kenneth G. Crabtree, real estate agent Jack L. Williams, his son, David M. Williams, and restaurant owner David M. Mironovich.

Fortune later pleaded guilty to mail fraud, tax evasion and witness tampering and agreed to cooperate in the investigation.

The five others named in the indictment have continued to maintain their innocence.

More than 100,000 pages of documents, including stacks of public records subpoenaed by the government, were initially turned over to defendants and their lawyers. Thousands more have been delivered in recent days, according to defense lawyers.

But Wanger refused to delay the trial despite lawyers' complaints that they needed more time to sort through the evidence. The judge will be asked again Monday to continue the trial.

**Defendants and charges**

Sorenson is facing 11 counts. One of the extortion counts involves attempts to collect money from an unnamed company, believed to be Kaufman & Broad, for his help on a project.

Roger Nuttall, Sorenson's lawyer, said the former council member has not extorted money from anyone or accepted a bribe from anyone.

"He's charged with having conducted a racketeering activity through the Clovis City Council," Nuttall said, adding that Sorenson was a "neophyte" in politics. "The idea of him running a racketeering enterprise through anything is absurd."

In the latest documents supplied by the government, Nuttall



Charles J. Stevens will prosecute his first major public corruption case Tuesday.

"It's a travesty this case is going forward" against his client.

David Williams is charged with perjury and obstruction of justice. His lawyer, Hilary Clutick, declined to comment.

Milutinovich is also charged with perjury and obstruction of justice. Eric Englehardt, who is representing Milutinovich, could not be reached to comment.

**Cooperating**

In addition to Roberts and Fortune, the witness list is expected to include developer John C. Tatham, son of the former Clovis mayor, who is charged with perjury and obstruction of justice.

Sorenson also has been charged in a second case. This case involves alleged attempts to influence council members to vote with developer John C. Tatham to displace \$33,000 in campaign contributions and other payments he made while entering favorable votes on the projects.

In the second case, former Mayor Charles "Dave" Lawson pleaded guilty to mail fraud charges and also agreed to cooperate in the investigation. Sorenson, Hamel and Clovis Council Member Lynn L. Bryant are facing trial.

Not long after Lawson pleaded guilty, Operation Rezone made its first move into Fresno with the indictment of former Fresno City Council Member Robert C. Smith. March Smith pleaded extortion and income taxes and agreed to cooperate in the investigation.

Lawyer Daniel Bacon, who represents Crabtree, said that

Williams also is facing charges of filing false income tax returns in 1991 and 1992, when he allegedly failed to report income of about \$25,000, and for not filing a return in 1993.

Crabtree is accused of attempting to convince Roberts not to cooperate in the federal investigation.

Lawyer Daniel Bacon, who represents Crabtree, said that

(12/31/1995)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 01/02/1997

✓ To: FBI Headquarters

Attn: SSA [redacted]  
Pub Corruption Unit

[redacted] (Fax)

From: Sacramento  
Squad 7  
Contact: [redacted]

*RPW*  
Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]: jjw

Case ID #: 194B-SC-23790 (Pending)

b7C

Title: REZONE, CSLPO-LOCAL LEVEL, OO:SC

Synopsis: As a result of a guilty plea [redacted]  
[redacted] negotiations with the U.S. Attorney's  
Office, Sacramento, [redacted]

b7C  
b7D

A search warrant was obtained and executed at the  
business office of Fresno developer R. J. Hill Company, Fresno,  
California, [redacted]

b7C  
b7D

Fresno area.

Reference: SC EC TO FBIHQ, DATED 10/17/96 Serial 224

Administrative: Case in Sacramento is being reassigned to SA  
[redacted], due to previous case agent's promotion  
to Squad 7 Supervisor, Sacramento.

[redacted] *2/2/97*

To: FBI Headquarters From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 01/02/1997

b7C  
b7D

**Details:** As previously noted, on 10/17/96, subject Clovis City Councilman Glynn Lafayette Bryant appeared before United States District Court Judge (USDCJ) Robert E. Coyle, Eastern District of California (EDC), Fresno, California and pled "guilty" to 1 count violation of the Honest Services Mail Fraud (HSMF) statute, Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 1346. The "guilty" plea was secured as a result of an agreement reached with the U.S. Attorney's Office, EDC, Sacramento, in exchange for a period of incarceration ranging from 21-27 months. [REDACTED]

b7C  
b7D

in the investigation. USDCJ Coyle ordered a pre-sentence report and scheduled Bryant for sentencing, February 3, 1997.

To: FBI Headquarters From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 01/02/1997

Because a pattern is emerging suggesting Bonadelle is operating a criminal enterprise, consideration is being given by the U.S. Attorney's Office, EDC, Sacramento to charging Bonadelle with "racketeering," in violation of the RICO Statute, Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 1962. While exact charges have yet to be decided, Sacramento is closely pursuing the matter with USA Charles Stevens and Assistant U. S. Attorney (AUSA) John K. Vincent, EDC, Sacramento.

With respect to the aforementioned search warrant, in October, 1995, the Sacramento case agent located [redacted] (white/female. Date of Birth: [redacted] Place of Birth: [redacted] to subject Fresno developer [redacted] dba R. J. Hill Company, Fresno, California who [redacted]

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b3

usually made by Kenneth Gary Crabtree, another employee and close business associate [redacted] Crabtree recently pled guilty to Witness Tampering (WT) because he interfered with a witness in another aspect of this case, in violation Title 18, USC, Section 1512, was fined \$1,000, and placed on 1 years probation.

On 12/16/96, U.S. Magistrate S.M. Synder, EDC, Fresno, California authorized the examination of the aforementioned [redacted]

as described in Federal Grand Jury subpoena #96B-67-7, a copy of which was also left with his representative.

To: FBI Headquarters From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 01/02/1997

Investigation in Fresno, California is continuing.  
FBIHQ will be kept apprised of any additional charges or  
prosecutions!

**Descriptive Data:**

Main Subject

Name -

Last:

Bonadelle, Sr.

First:

John

Middle:

DDN:

Race:

W

Sex:

M

DOB:

DLN:

Address -

House #:

Pre Direction:

Street Name:

City:

Fresno

State:

California

b7C

Main Subject

Name -

Last:

First:

Middle:

DDN:

Race:

W

Sex:

M

DOB:

POB:

Visalia, CA

SOC:

Miscellaneous -

Logan and Associates,  
1396 W Herndon Avenue, #103,  
Fresno, CA 93711  
209/431-1856

b7C

To: FBI Headquarters From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 01/02/1997

Main Subject

Name -

Last:

Crabtree

First:

Kenneth

Middle:

Gary

DDN:

Race:

W

Sex:

M

DOB:

[REDACTED]

POB:

Anselma, CA

SSAN:

[REDACTED]

Main Subject

Name -

Last:

[REDACTED]

First:

Middle:

Race:

W

Sex:

M

DOB:

[REDACTED]

POB:

Oakland, CA

SSAN:

[REDACTED]

Business:

R.J. Hill Company  
4325 West Shaw Avenue,  
Fresno, CA 93722

Address:

[REDACTED]

Address:

Wife:

[REDACTED]

DOB:

Bro-in-Law:

[REDACTED]

DOB:

[REDACTED]

CII#:

CA DL#:

Address:

[REDACTED]

b7C

b7C

To: FBI Headquarters From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 01/02/1997

cc: 2-FBIHQ  
2-File 194B-SC-23790  
1-SSA [REDACTED]  
1-SA [REDACTED]  
(6)

b7C



Date: 1/28/97

To: Director, FBI ( )  
Attn: CID, WCC Section

From: SAC, SACRAMENTO (194B-SC-23790) (P)

For FBI Field Office use only  
CM#: 97-4

REZONE

CSLPO - STATE LEVEL

OO: SACRAMENTO

Notification of SAC Authority Granted for Use of  
CONSENSUAL Monitoring Equipment  
(Check only ONE)

- ☐ Routine Use
- ☒ Emergency Use-Sensitive Circumstances (cannot exceed 30 days & may be extended only by FBIHQ).

This form must be typewritten &amp; submitted within 10 working days of the date authority is granted as shown in Item 5 below.

1. Reason for Proposed Use: (Check) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corroborate Testimony <input type="checkbox"/> Protect Consenting Party <input type="checkbox"/> Protect Government Property <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collect Evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		2. Type of Equipment: (Check) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transmitter/Receiver <input type="checkbox"/> Concealed Recorder <input type="checkbox"/> CCTV/Audio & Video <input type="checkbox"/> CCTV Video only <input type="checkbox"/> Microphone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	
3. Consenting Party (Identify ONLY on Field Office Copy) <input type="checkbox"/> Nonconfidential Party <input type="checkbox"/> Confidential Source <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooperative Witness		4. Interceptee(s): (Include Title if Public Official) _____ & others as yet unknown.	
5. Duration of proposed use: Authorized On: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> For the duration of investigation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For 30 days (Emergency NTCM usage) Expiring On: 2/2/97	6. Equipment Concealed: <input type="checkbox"/> In a Motel Rm. <input type="checkbox"/> In a Residence <input type="checkbox"/> In a Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	7. City & State where Equipment will be used: FRESNO, CA	
8. The following mandatory requirements have been met: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consenting party has agreed to testify; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consenting party has executed a consent form; & <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recording/transmitting device will be activated only when consenting party is present.		9. Government Attorney in judicial district where monitoring and/or recording will take place has been contacted; foresees no entrapment; & concurs in the use of the technique. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date of Contact: _____ Identity of Gov't Atty: AUSA JOHN K. VINCENT Judicial District: EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA FRESNO, CA	
10. Violation(s): Title(s) 18 Sec(s) 1512 USC			
11. DOJ notification required <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No. If "Yes" check reason below: NOTE: Requests for Routine NTCM usage involving any of the 7 sensitive circumstances requires a teletype to HQ prepared in the format described in the MIOG, Part II, Section 10-10.3 (8). Request for Emergency NTCM usage involving Item 6 below requires immediate contact with the FBIHQ substantive desk for DOJ approval. The 7 sensitive circumstances do not apply to the use of CCTV video only.			
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Interception relates to an investigation of a member of Congress; a Federal Judge; a member of the Executive Branch at Executive Level IV or above; or a person who has served in such capacity within the previous 2 years. 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interception relates to an investigation of any public official and the offense investigated is one involving bribery; conflict of interest; or extortion relating to the performance of his/her official duties. 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Interception relates to an investigation of a Federal law enforcement official. 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Consenting/nonconsenting party is a member of the diplomatic corps of a foreign country. 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Consenting/nonconsenting party is or has been a member of the Witness Security Program and that fact is known to the agency involved or its officers. 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Consenting/nonconsenting party is in the custody of the Bureau of Prisons or the U.S. Marshals Service. 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Attorney General; Deputy Attorney General; Associate Attorney General; Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division; or the U.S. Attorney in the district where an investigation is being conducted has requested the investigating agency to obtain prior written consent for making a consensual interception in a specific investigation.			
12. Synopsis of Case: (Attach additional page if necessary)			

## 13. Justification statement necessitating emergency authorization:

- ☒ Emergency 30 day authorization granted due to imminent need (within 48 hours) for use of consensual monitoring device(s), which precluded the handling of this request in the usual manner.
- ☐ Other (Attach Additional Page to Specify)

(2) Bureau (1-Main File)

RECEIVED  
2/4/97

## Field Approval

14. CDC (If Sensitive Circumstances Exist)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 1/22/97

15. SAC Signature R. H. Roso / Charles C. Kelly Date: 1/31/97

## FBIHQ Approval

16. Unit Chief Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 2/2/97

(12/31/1995)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**Precedence:** DEADLINE 04/04/1997

**Date:** 03/20/1997

**To:** FBI Headquarters ✓

**Attn:** Congressional and  
Public Affairs  
Special Events Unit,  
Rm 7372 B,

Public Corruption Unit,  
SSA [redacted] (info)

**From:** Sacramento  
Squad 7

**Contact:** SSA [redacted]

**Approved By:** [redacted]

**Drafted By:** [redacted] bjw

**Case ID #:** 66F-HQ-1104426 (Pending)  
194B-SC-23790 (Pending)

b7C

**Title:** LOUIS E. PETERS MEMORIAL SERVICE AWARD  
REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS  
BUDED: 4/4/97

b7C

b7D

REZONE; CSLPO-Local Level  
OO: SC,  
194B-SC-23790-264

[redacted]  
the 1996 Louis E. Peters Memorial Service Award.

**Reference:** FBIHQ EC TO SACS, DTD. 2/10/97.

**Administrative:** Sacramento requests FBIHQ consider selecting [redacted] California, to receive the coveted Louis E. Peters Memorial Service Award for his invaluable assistance provided in an ongoing corruption probe involving corrupt elected city officials and local developers in California's Central Valley. To date 14 individuals have been charged in a series of related Indictments returned an/or Informations filed, with 10 pleading guilty, including a mayor and three city councilmen. [redacted]

As the Bureau is aware, it was in Sacramento where the Lou Peters story was born and later told. It would be fitting, on its 15th anniversary, that someone in Sacramento is selected who is also extremely qualified to receive the award.

cc

[redacted]

[redacted] [signature]

To: FBI Headquarters From: Sacramento  
Re: 66F-HQ-1104426 03/20/1997

**Enclosures:** Enclosed for FBIHQ is the original and four copies of self-explanatory LHM re [redacted] five copies of a letter addressed Louis J. Freeh, Director, FBI, dated March 20, 1997 from Charles J. Stevens, U.S. Attorney, EDC, Sacramento.

[redacted]

**Details:** See self-explanatory enclosed LHM requesting [redacted]  
[redacted], be selected to receive captioned award.

**Descriptive Data:**

Reference

Name -

Last:

First:

Middle:

DDN:

Race:

Sex:

DOB:

POB:

SOC:

Jr.

W

M

Selma, California

CC: SAC Richard H. Ross  
ASAC Charles C. Kiley  
SSA [redacted]

b7C

b7D

U.S. Department of Justice



Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Sacramento, CA 95841



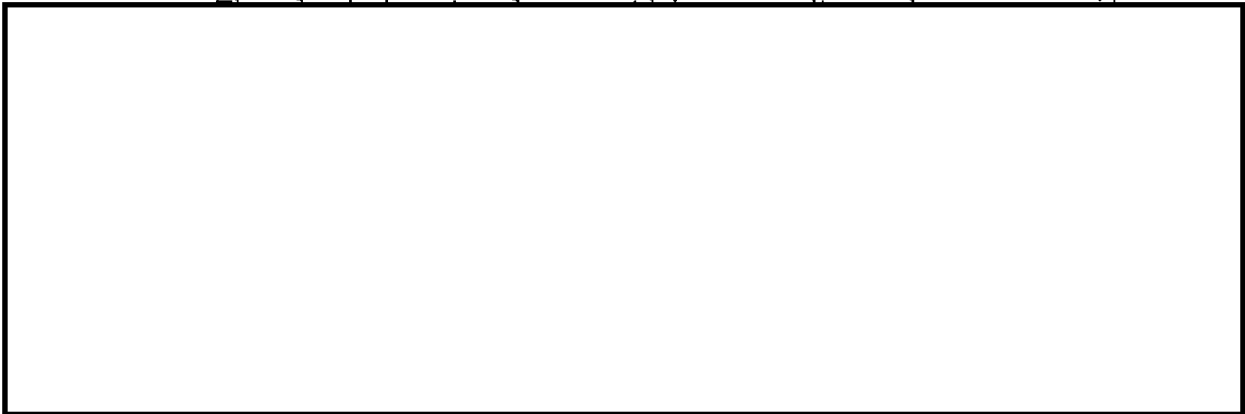
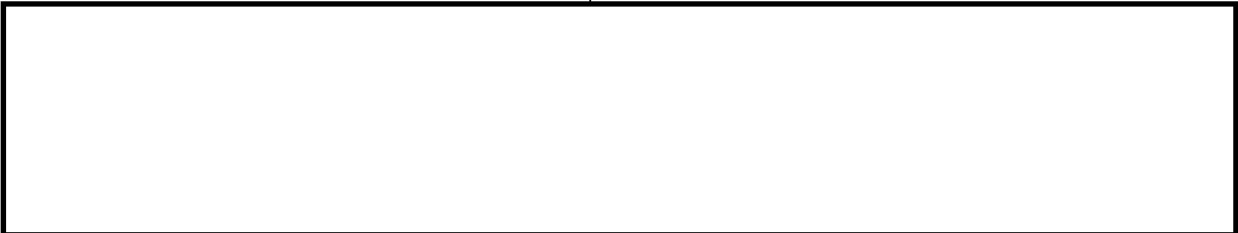
b7C

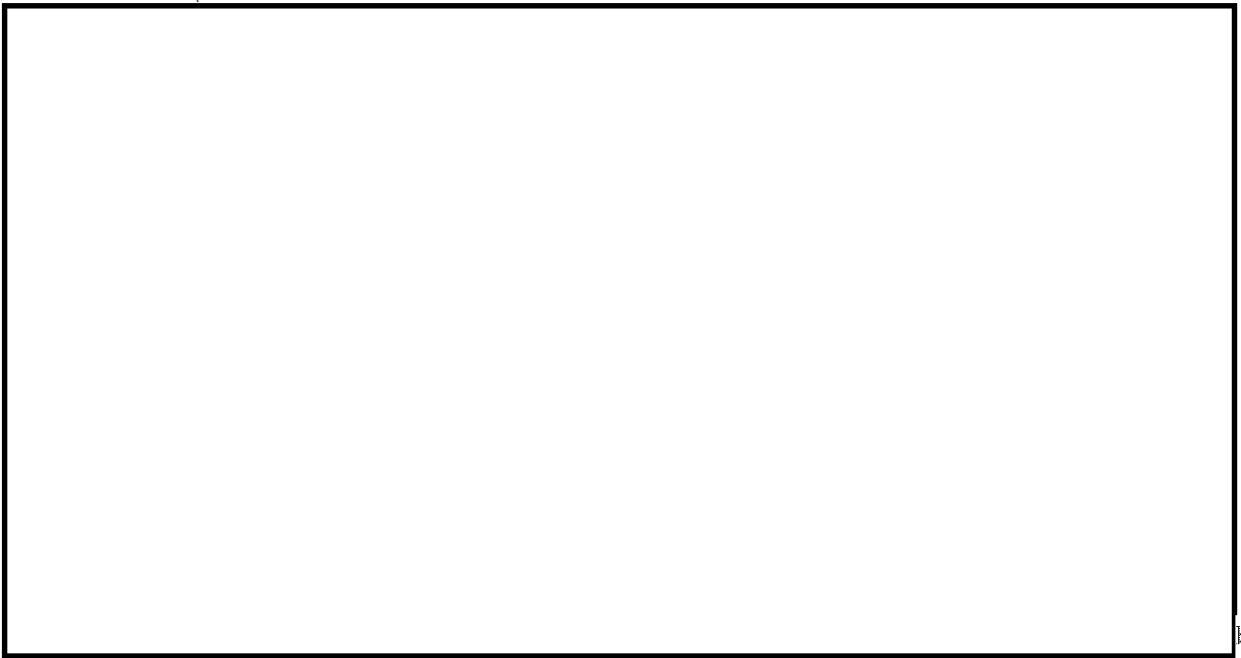
b7D

**Administrative:**



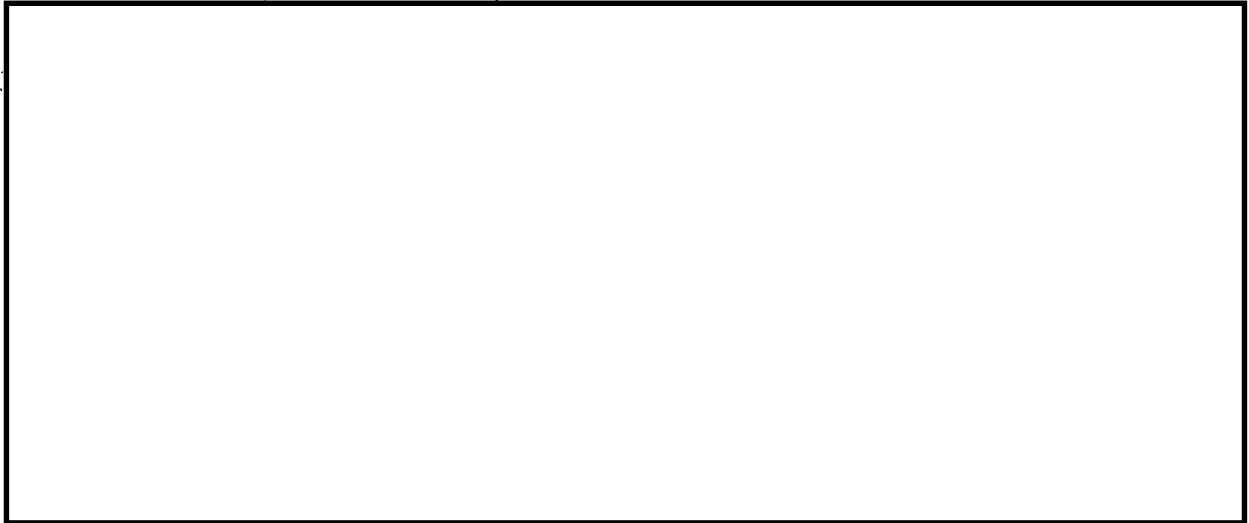
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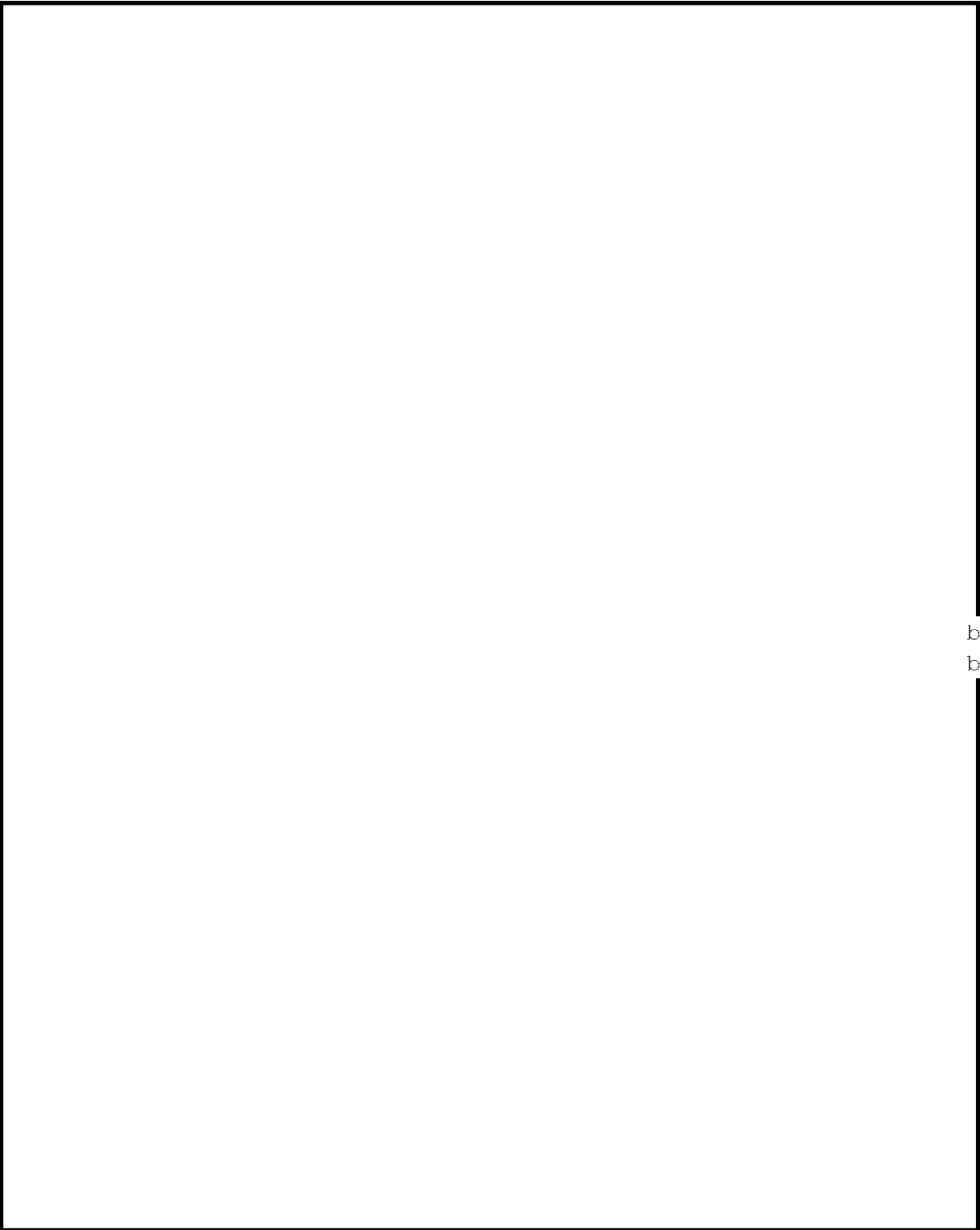




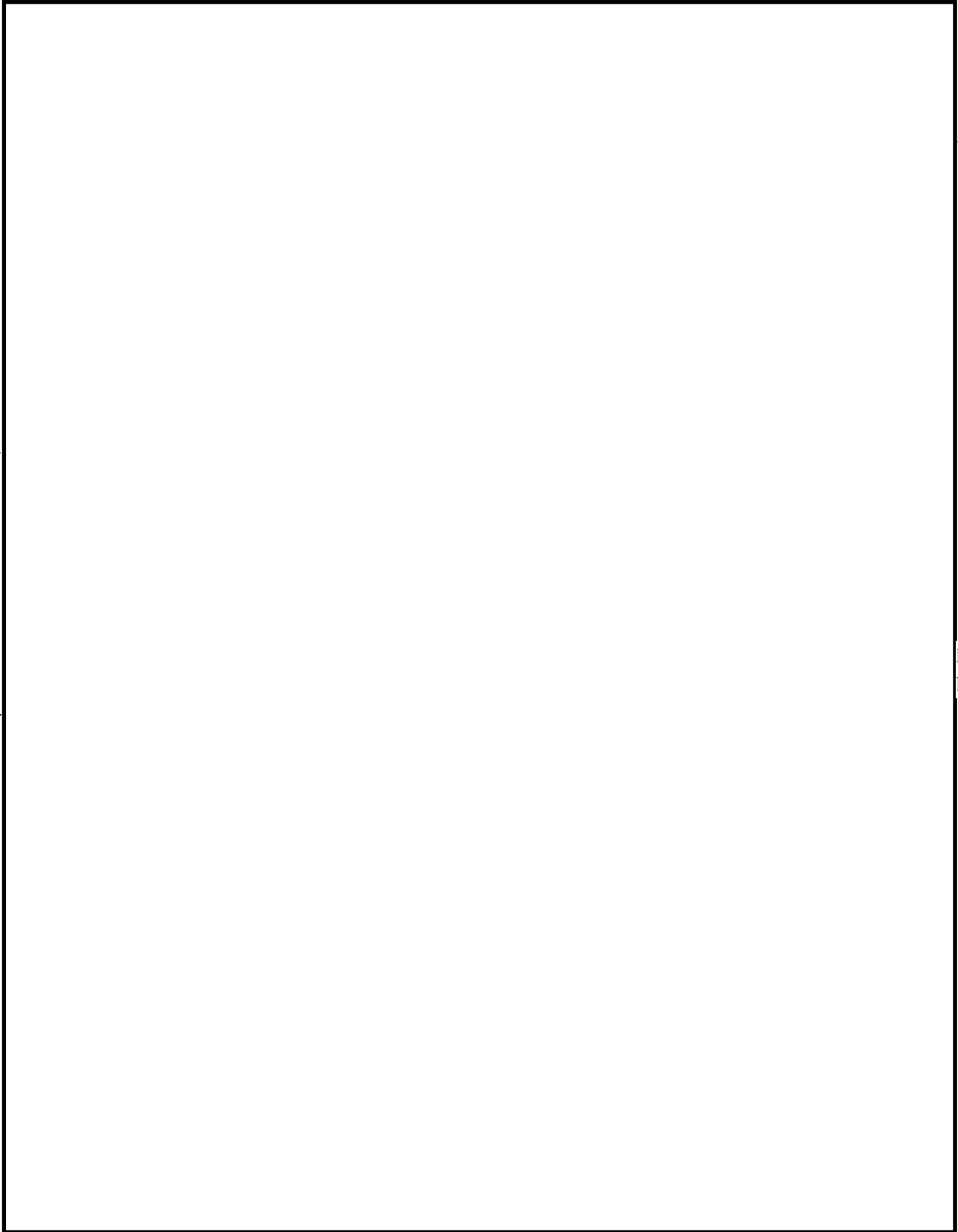
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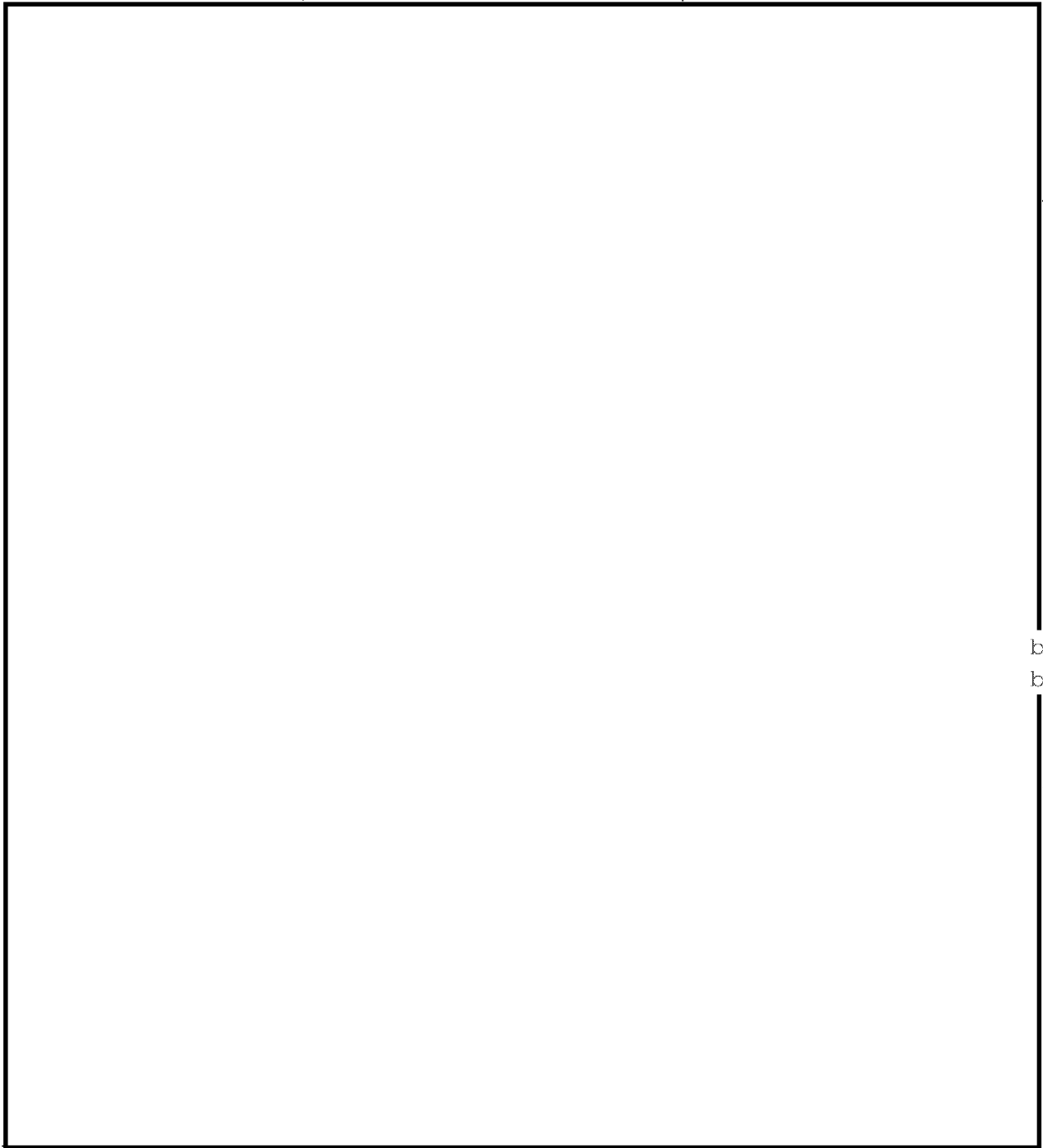




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b7D



b7C  
b7D

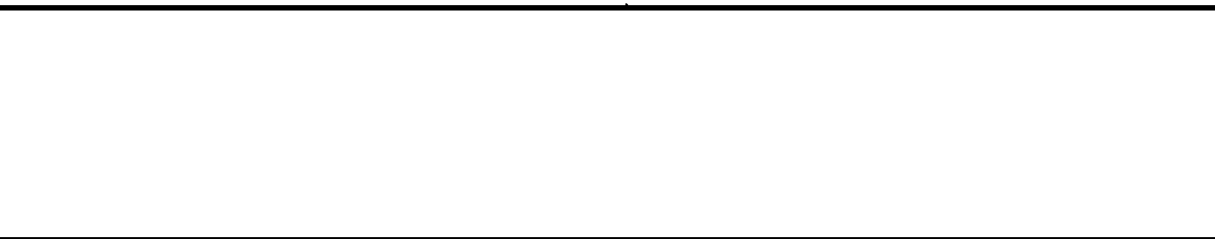


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Investigators learned in the 1994 Clovis City election, Fresno developers led by John Bonadelle sought to pack the Clovis City Council with pro-development members by mandating each developer contribute \$10,000 a piece to certain candidates. The fundraising effort was to be spearheaded by Clovis City Councilman Lief Sorensen who backed the reelection of the then current mayor, Charles David Lawson, and the election of first



time candidates Shirley Ingalls and Glenda Lowe. Ingalls and Lowe were handpicked by developers John Bonadelle, Patrick Fortune, and Kenneth Crabtree, and if elected were expected to more or less "rubber-stamp" any development. Interestingly enough prior to the investigation commencing in March 1994, "The Fresno Bee," in an article concerning development, printed during the Christmas Holidays, the aforementioned Bonadelle, Fortune, and Crabtree were facetiously described as "three wisemen bearing gifts."



In August 1995, Clovis City Councilman Leif C. Sorensen, along with Fresno developers Patrick R. Fortune, Kenneth G. Crabtree, Jack L. Williams, David M. Williams, and business associate David R. Milutinovich, were all charged with a variety of criminal violations, including racketeering, extortion, money laundering, obstruction of justice, witness tampering, perjury, and income tax evasion.

On August 16, 1995, Patrick Fortune pled guilty to witness tampering, mail fraud, and filing a false tax return in exchange for a 30-month prison sentence and cooperation in the investigation.

In January 1996, Clovis City Councilmen Glynn L. Bryant, former Clovis Mayor Charles David Lawson, and Fresno developer Jerry M. Hamel were all charged in a 21-count Indictment returned by Federal Grand Jury (FGJ), Eastern District of California, Sacramento alleging violations of the Honest Services Mail Fraud Statute.

In March 1996, former Fresno City Councilman Robert C. Smith pled guilty to federal extortion charges and filing a false tax return. The case is still pending because Smith recently has attempted to withdraw his guilty plea.

In June 1996, at the conclusion of the Government's case, former Clovis City Councilman Sorensen, and Fresno developers Crabtree, Jack Williams, and business associate Milutinovich all plead guilty to felony criminal charges in exchange for sentences ranging from probation to 30 months incarceration. David Williams' case was disposed via Pre-trial diversion.

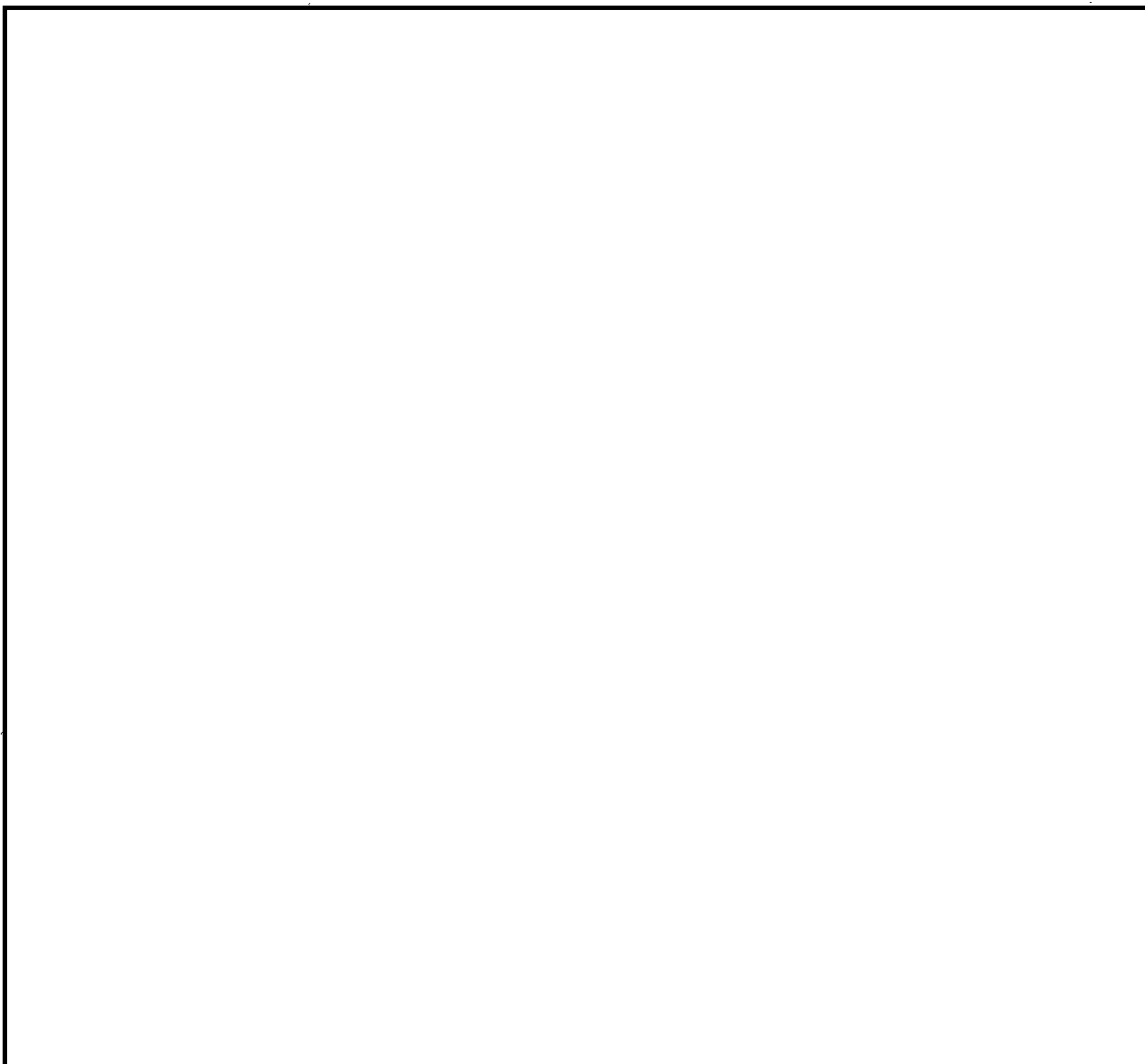
\_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

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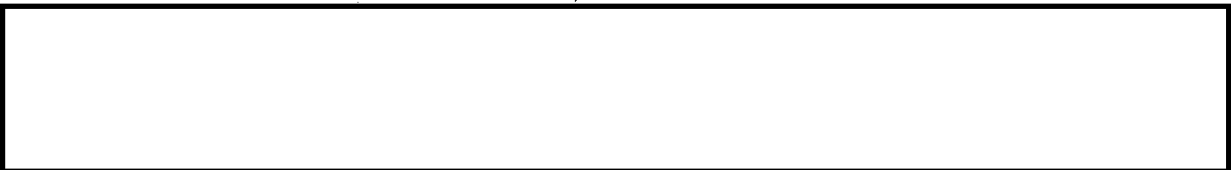
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**SAC's Recommendation:**

Richard H. Ross, SAC, Sacramento personally recommends



**U. S. Attorney's Recommendation:**



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b7D

**Media Attention:**

As evidence by the news articles accompanying this LHM, the REZONE investigation has generated intense media interest in California's Central Valley. The Central Valley known as the nation's most fertile farm region is 400 miles long, 7 miles wide, occupies more than 6.7 million acres, producing 250 different commodities valued annually at \$13 billion, with an estimated population of 5 million. Fresno, the Central Valley's hub is California's sixth largest city, with an estimated population of 400,000.

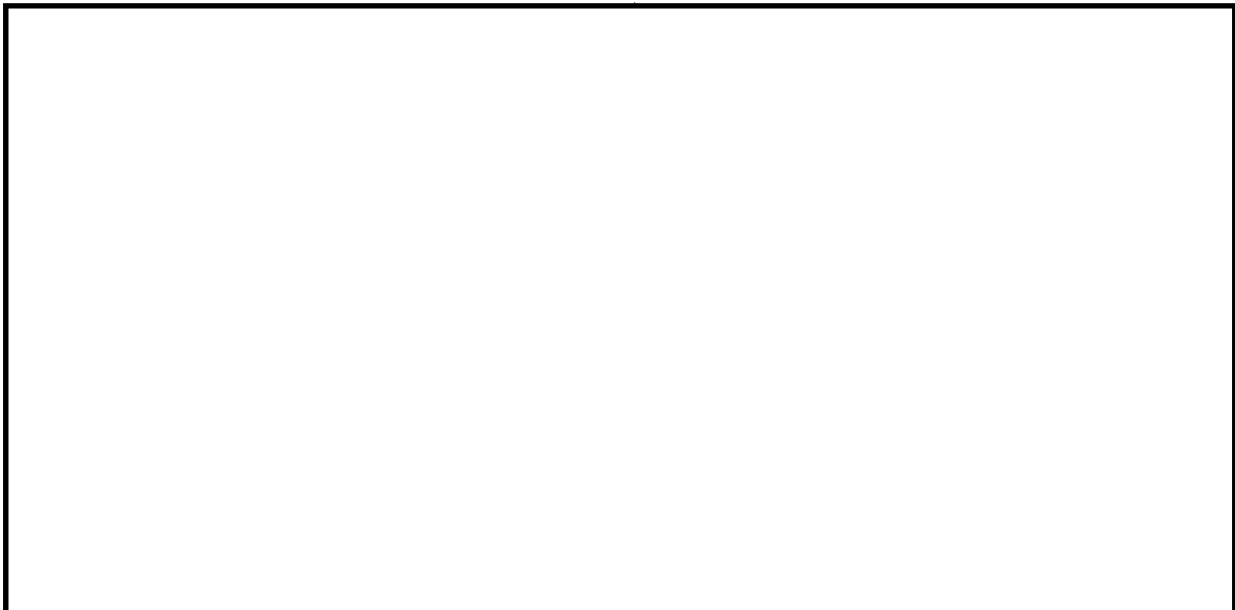
Recently, Arnie Friedman, a Los Angeles media consultant has advised discussions are underway to produce a



**Addendum:**

It is important for FBIHQ to note the REZONE investigation is still ongoing. It is expected the next series

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come under scrutiny since it was only disclosed in his Statements of Economic Interests (SEIs) in 1995, although he has owned same since at least 1989. The SEIs are required to be filed with the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), the state's watchdog agency, responsible for investigating corruption.

b7C



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney  
Eastern District of California

555 Capitol Mall, Suite 1550  
Sacramento, California 95814

916/554-2700  
Fax 916/554-2100

Mailing Address:  
650 Capitol Mall  
Sacramento, California 95814

COPY

March 20, 1997

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

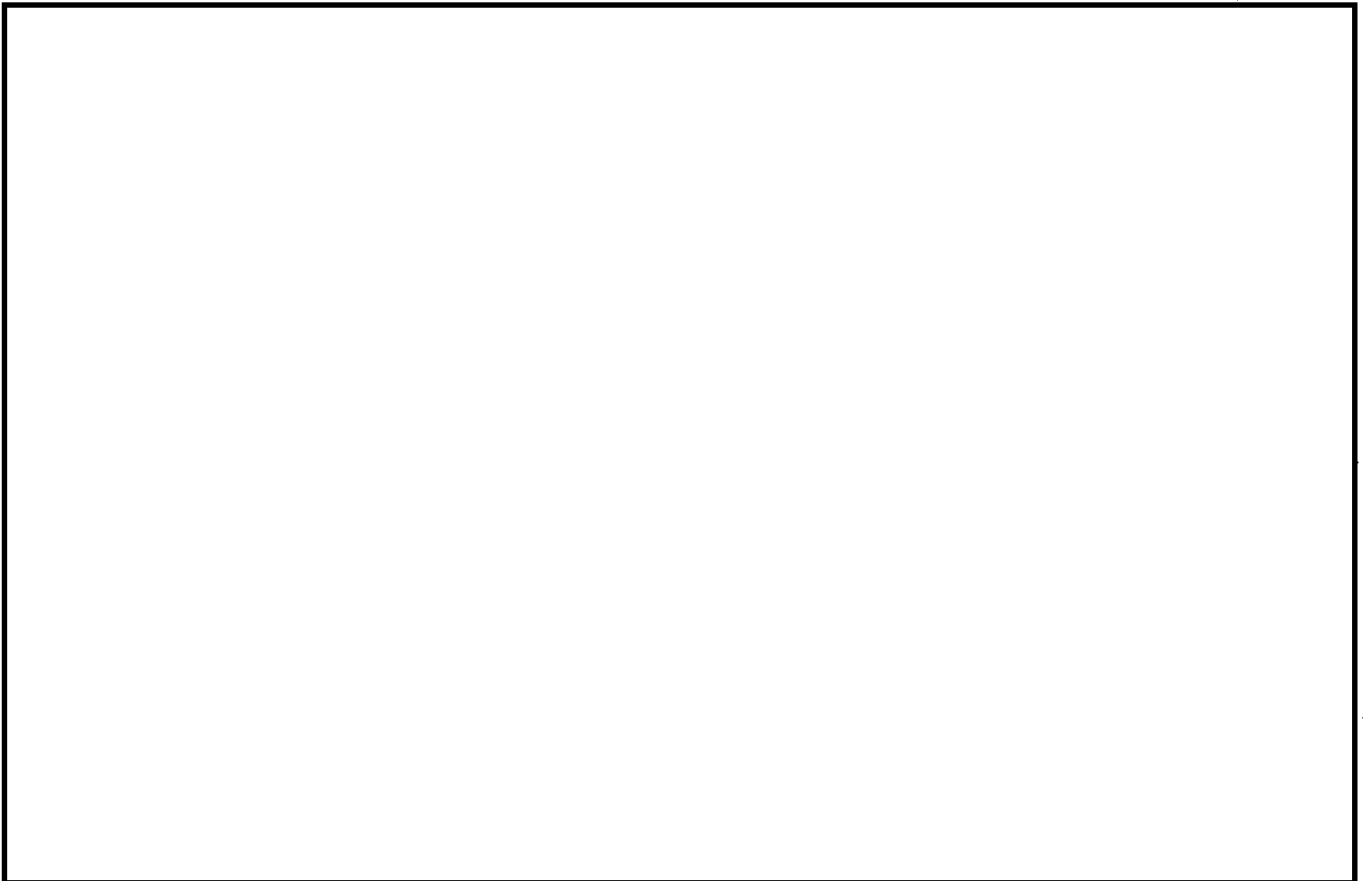
Louis J. Freeh  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

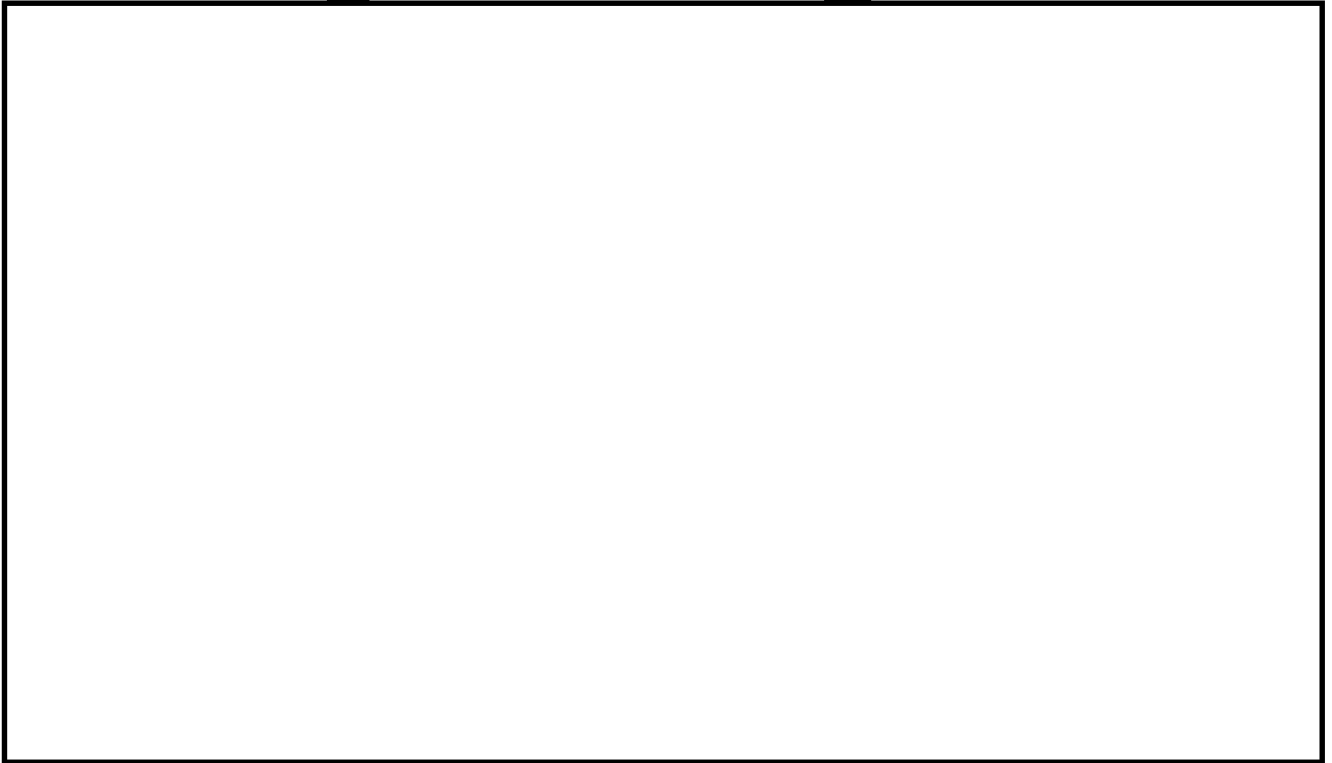
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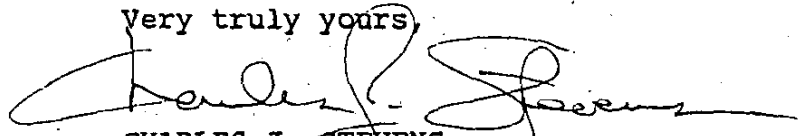
Re: Recommendation of [REDACTED] for  
1996 Louis E. Peters Memorial Service Award

Dear Director Freeh:





Very truly yours,



CHARLES J. STEVENS  
United States Attorney

CJS:sc

b7C  
b7D

(06/01/1995)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: PRIORITY

Date: 04/10/1997

To: Sacramento (194B-SC-23790) (Encl.3)  
Elsur Unit (Encl.1)

From: *Rme/lor* Criminal Investigative

Contact: [REDACTED]

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED] vlb

Case ID #: 194B-SC-23790

b7C

Title: *①* REZONE; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICIALS b7D  
LAW ENFORCEMENT; OO: SACRAMENTO

Synopsis: To advise the Sacramento Division of notification to the DOJ for consensual monitoring beginning regarding FD-759 dated 1/28/97. [REDACTED]

Details: Enclosed are two copies of a memorandum from the Director to the Office of Enforcement Operation (OEO), Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice, upon which OEO was apprised of the use of transmitting and/or recording device which authorization was granted by the SAC due to exigent circumstances. This authority is for a 30 day period commencing [REDACTED]

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You are to submit an FD-621 within 30 days of the expiration of the authorization furnishing information regarding use of the equipment in accordance with MIOG, Part II, Section 10-10.3(9).

In the event a renewal of this authorization is deemed warranted, submit your request with full justification at least seven days prior to the expiration of the existing authorization, in compliance with MIOG, Part II, Section 10-10.3(9).

① - File # (194B-SC-23790)

1 - Working Copy

CTH:vlb

♦♦

APPROVED:

Crim. Inv. <i>Rme/lor</i>	Info. Res.	Training
Crim. Jus. Info.	Inspection	Office of EEO
Servs.	Laboratory	Affairs
Director	Finance	Office of Public &
Deputy Director	Gen. Counsel	Cong. Affairs

*1/2/97*  
B: 410VCH-EC

194B-SC-23790-268



194B-5C-23790-268

# Memorandum



To : Office of Enforcement Operations  
Criminal Division

March 6, 1997

From : *CS/400*  
Director, FBI

Subject: REZONE; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC  
OFFICIALS - LAW ENFORCEMENT

Enclosed is a copy of a communication which furnishes information concerning a current investigation.

✓ Pursuant to the Attorney's General's Memorandum of November 7, 1983, captioned "Procedures for Lawful, Warrantless Interceptions of Verbal Communications," addressed to the Heads and Inspectors General of Executive Departments and Agencies, the following notification/request is being made relative to the authorization to utilize an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party.

Pursuant to Attorney General's Order Number 985-82, dated August 6, 1982, captioned "Delegation of Authority to Authorize Television Surveillance," the following notification/request is being made relative to the authorization to utilize Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance in connection with captioned matter.

✓ 1. Emergency authority to utilize an electronic device to record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party was granted by an appropriate FBI official on                      for 30 days ending                     . Exigent circumstances precluded a request for authorization in advance. b7D

2. Emergency authorization to utilize Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance in connection with captioned matter was granted by appropriate FBI official on                      for 30 days ending                     . Exigent circumstances precluded a request for authorization in advance.

Approved:

(Pursuant to the Authority of the  
Attorney General 11-7-83)

*CH Lawrence*

Associate Director  
Office of Enforcement Operations

Date: MAR 14 1997

*Return to  
pm 3149*

Memorandum from Director, FBI to Office of Enforcement Operations  
RE: REZONE; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC  
OFFICIALS - LAW ENFORCEMENT

- \_\_\_\_ 3. As further utilization of an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party is expected in this matter, it is requested that you approve the use of this equipment for a period of 90 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_ 4. As further use of CCTV is expected in this matter, it is requested that your office approve the use of this equipment for a period of 90 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_ 5. Non-emergency authorization is requested for the utilization of an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party for a period of 90 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_ 6. Non-emergency authorization is requested for the utilization of CCTV surveillance for a period of 90 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.

The use of these electronic devices in this case is being recommended in the best interest of effective law enforcement in that they are expected to provide corroborative evidence and/or protect the individual(s) utilizing the equipment.

The use of CCTV will not involve any trespass and it will be utilized only when a consenting party is present. The CCTV will be under the care, custody and control of the FBI.

Enclosure

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 1  
Page 1 ~ Duplicate

Office of Enforcement Operations  
Criminal Division

March 6, 1997

Director, FBI

REZONE; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC  
OFFICIALS - LAW ENFORCEMENT

Enclosed is a copy of a communication which furnishes  
information concerning a current investigation.

✓ Pursuant to the Attorney's General's Memorandum of  
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addressed to the Heads and Inspectors General of  
Executive Departments and Agencies, the following  
notification/request is being made relative to the  
authorization to utilize an electronic device to  
monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations  
with the consent of a party.

Pursuant to Attorney General's Order Number  
985-82, dated August 6, 1982, captioned "Delegation of  
Authority to Authorize Television Surveillance," the  
following notification/request is being made relative  
to the authorization to utilize Closed Circuit  
Television (CCTV) surveillance in connection with  
captioned matter.

- ✓ 1. Emergency authority to utilize an electronic  
device to record private non-telephonic  
conversations with the consent of a party was  
granted by an appropriate FBI official on  
[redacted] for 30 days ending [redacted]  
[redacted] Exigent circumstances precluded a  
request for authorization in advance. b7D
2. Emergency authorization to utilize Closed  
Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance in  
connection with captioned matter was granted  
by appropriate FBI official on [redacted]  
for 30 days ending [redacted]. Exigent  
circumstances precluded a request for  
authorization in advance.

Dep. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief of \_\_\_\_\_  
Staff \_\_\_\_\_  
Off. of Gen. \_\_\_\_\_  
Counsel \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Crim. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
CJIS \_\_\_\_\_  
Finance \_\_\_\_\_  
Info. Res. \_\_\_\_\_  
Insp. \_\_\_\_\_  
Lab. \_\_\_\_\_  
National Sec. \_\_\_\_\_  
Personnel \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Off. of EEOA \_\_\_\_\_  
Off. of Public \_\_\_\_\_  
& Cong. Affs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director's Office \_\_\_\_\_

1 - Elsur Index, IMD

1 - [redacted]  
CTH:vlb (5) 60

b7C

MAIL ROOM ☐

1 ENCL

194B-E-23790-269

FBI/DOJ

Memorandum from Director, FBI to Office of Enforcement Operations  
RE: REZONE; CORRUPTION OF STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC  
OFFICIALS - LAW ENFORCEMENT

- \_\_\_\_ 3. As further utilization of an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party is expected in this matter, it is requested that you approve the use of this equipment for a period of 90 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
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- \_\_\_\_ 5. Non-emergency authorization is requested for the utilization of an electronic device to monitor and record private non-telephonic conversations with the consent of a party for a period of 90 days beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_.
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The use of CCTV will not involve any trespass and it will be utilized only when a consenting party is present. The CCTV will be under the care, custody and control of the FBI.

Enclosure

**APPROVED:**

Crim. Inv. <u>Enclosure</u>	Info. Res. _____	Training _____
Crim. Jus. Info. _____	Inspection _____	Office of EEO _____
Servs. _____	Laboratory <u>2*</u>	Affairs _____
Director _____	Finance _____	National Sec. _____
Deputy Director _____	Gen. Counsel _____	Personnel _____
		Office of Public & Cong. Affairs _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
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(12/31/1995)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 11/22/1997

To: ✓ Criminal Investigative

Attn: SSA [redacted]  
Public Corruption Unit,

[redacted] (Fax) .

From: Sacramento

Squad 7

Contact: SSA [redacted]

Approved By: [redacted] ✓

Drafted By: [redacted] jjw

Case ID #: 194B-SC-23790-359 (Pending)

Title: REZONE, CSLPO-Local Level, OO:SC.

Synopsis: Alert the Public Corruption Unit (PCU), FBIHQ, concerning anticipated RICO indictment expected to be returned charging REZONE subjects Fresno developer JOHN BONADELLE, SR., Fresno City Consultant JAMES WILLIAM LOGAN, and former Fresno City Councilman ROBERT CHARLES LUNG, with a number of criminal violations, in December 1997.

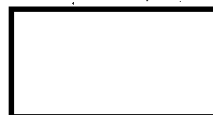
Reference: SC EC TO FBIHQ, DATED 1/2/97, Serial 242.

b7C

Enclosures: Two copies of a front page Fresno Bee news article, dated 8/7/87, captioned, "Operation Rezone questions center on John Bonadelle."

Details: With respect to captioned REZONE investigation, SC expects the U.S. Attorney's Office in December 1997, to request the Federal Grand Jury (FGJ), Eastern District of California (EDC), Sacramento to return an indictment charging subjects Fresno Developer JOHN BONADELLE, SR., Fresno City Consultant JAMES WILLIAM LOGAN, and former Fresno City Councilman ROBERT CHARLES LUNG with violations of the RICO, Bribery of a Local Agent Administering Federal Funds (BLAAFF), Honest Services Mail Fraud (HSMF), Money Laundering (ML), and Witness Tampering Statutes, Title 18, United States Code (USC), Sections 1962(c), 666, 1346, 1956, and 1512.

3149





To: Criminal Investigative From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 11/22/1997

The aforementioned eleven (11) count Indictment will charge BONADELLE, SR., with eight (8) predicate racketeering acts (four alleging corruption and four witness tampering) in the RICO count, four (4) counts Bribery of a Local Agent Administering Federal Funds (BLAAFF), one (1) count Honest Services Mail Fraud (HSMF), one (1) count Money Laundering (ML), and four (4) counts Witness Tampering. Subject LUNG will be charged with one (1) count Bribery of a Local Agent Administering Federal Funds (BLAAFF), one (1) count Honest Services Mail Fraud (HSMF), and one (1) count Money Laundering (ML). Subject LOGAN will be charged with one (1) count Bribery of a Local Agent Administering Federal Funds (BLAAFF). Because the investigation is still ongoing it is possible additional count(s) could be added depending upon outcome of several pending leads.

The BONADELLE/LOGAN/LUNG Indictment will also contain a criminal forfeiture provision inasmuch as one of the RICO predicate acts alleges Clovis City Councilman GLYNN L. BRYANT was "bribed" when he agreed and voted to support, zoning changes granted to two BONADELLE projects known as the BRENTWOOD-PARK PLACE and BRENTWOOD-BUCHANAN Subdivisions (two land parcels totaling sixty-four [64] acres) in exchange for BONADELLE and LOGAN promising to channel funds estimated at \$10 million through BRYANT's branch of the Bank of Fresno which he managed. Both subdivisions were constructed (and sold), as a direct result of the zoning changes and the "quid pro quo" arrangement; hence, the inclusion of the forfeiture provision in the anticipated Indictment.

As reflected in enclosed Fresno Bee article, BONADELLE SR., considered by many to be the largest "entry" home builder in California's San Joaquin Valley area, is believed responsible for overseeing Fresno's growth. Often called the Central Valley's "hub," Fresno is California's sixth largest city, with an estimated population of 450,000. Additionally, the San Joaquin Valley is known as the nation's most fertile farm region, occupying more than 6.7 million acres, producing 250 different commodities valued annually at \$13 billion, with an estimated population of 5 million. Over the past forty (40) years, BONADELLE openly and often, boasted about his corrupt influence with local officials, suggesting to many he was "untouchable" with respect to law enforcement. BONADELLE confided to several individuals that the reason he was "untouchable" was because over the years he has had every politician, elected official, judge, and/or prosecutor in his back yard, shaking hands and/or jaw boning about something.

To: Criminal Investigative From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790, 11/22/1997

Currently, BONADELLE's attorney is attempting to negotiate a possible plea arrangement with the U.S. Attorney's Office but one has not been reached yet. According to Assistant U.S. Attorney (AUSA) JOHN K. VINCENT, EDC, Sacramento, subject BONADELLE would have to plead to one (1) count alleging corruption and one (1) count Witness Tampering (WT), if an agreement was to be reached.

To date, ten (10) individuals (including developers and elected officials) have been convicted in the Clovis/Fresno, California area, as a result of captioned investigation. Initially, a total of sixteen (16) individuals were charged in a series of related Indictments returned and/or Informations filed (several subjects twice in different Indictments) resulting in the noted convictions. Two (2) subjects, former Fresno City Councilman ROBERT COOPER SMITH and Fresno Developer RODNEY JOHN DELUCA were recently acquitted in a jury trial where U.S. District Court Judge (USDCJ) OLIVER WANGER "severed" the case, causing most of the evidence to be excluded concerning subject SMITH. Defendant SMITH is scheduled to be tried again in January, 1998.

After the BONADELLE Indictment SC intends on pursuing criminal charges concerning Fresno Developers RANDY JOE HILL and KENNETH GARY CRABTREE.

Investigation continuing.

Fourth day, talks  
resume between  
UPS, union

BUSINESS C1

Fill won't turn  
the heat down  
on his new players

SPORTS D1

Secondhand smoke  
becoming  
everyone's problem

LIFE E1



■ THURSDAY  
August 7, 1997

# The Fresno Bee

Central California's leading newspaper

■ FINAL  
50 cents

## Operation Rezone questions center on John Bonadelle

■ FBI asks acquaintances, politicians about  
his building history in Clovis.

By Angela Valdivia Rush  
The Fresno Bee

In recent weeks, the FBI and a federal grand jury in Sacramento have questioned acquaintances and politicians about longtime Fresno developer John Bonadelle as part of their continuing Operation Rezone investigation.

Operation Rezone has focused on political corruption in the cities of Clovis and Fresno for nearly

four years and, to date, has resulted in nine convictions.

Since the investigation began, Bonadelle's name has surfaced numerous times, but he has never been charged with any wrongdoing. He is a multimillion dollar home-builder, who many say charted Fresno's growth.

Several people who have been convicted as part of the political corruption inquiry, including politicians and others involved in development, have told the FBI in interviews that Bonadelle has played a key role in local politics for decades.

Bonadelle's lawyer, John Panneton of Sacramen-

to, said they had no comment. Bonadelle has acknowledged in the past that he is a subject of the Rezone probe but has denied any illegal activity.

In a recent development, former Clovis City Council Member Leif C. Sorensen was taken from his cell at Lompoc Federal Prison to testify before a grand jury in Sacramento, according to a source.

Sorensen is serving a 30-month term for his involvement in political corruption. He was the first public official to be convicted and jailed in Operation Rezone.

Sorensen has said to the government and others

that he is a friend of Bonadelle's and that he "admired" the developer.

Sorensen's lawyer, Roger Nuttall, confirmed Wednesday afternoon that his client had been questioned but said he could not elaborate.

"My associate, Mark Coleman, was there, but we can't say any more than that," Nuttall said. Coleman was not allowed to accompany Sorensen during his testimony.

When asked if Sorensen had been questioned about Bonadelle, Nuttall said he learned from an

Please see Rezone, back page



Nine months ago, Maurice Dickson was arrested for the murder of Debbie Dorian. Though the charges were quickly dropped, authorities have never fully cleared Dickson. Now, Dickson says he wants a public apology and recognition of his innocence.

## SHADOW OF A DOUBT

## Apple plans to work with Microsoft

## Dorian case time line

- ▶ **Aug. 22, 1996:** Fresno State student Debbie Dorian, 22, is found raped and killed in her northeast Fresno apartment. Her father, Peter, finds the body when he arrives to check on her after she failed to meet him.
- ▶ **Early September:** A death certificate reveals that Dorian suffocated from "binding and gagging." Her face and head had been wrapped in duct tape.
- ▶ **Oct. 28:** Maurice Dickson, a 28-year-old former grocery clerk and security guard, is arrested on suspicion of raping and killing Dorian.
- ▶ **Oct. 30:** A criminal complaint charges Dickson with murder and a special-circumstance charge of rape during the course of a killing. The special circumstance would enable prosecutors to seek the death penalty. Also, police interview a friend of Dickson's in connection with the case. Alvin McGee, 23, had signed a lease to be Dorian's roommate, and Dickson had driven him to the apartment.
- ▶ **Oct. 31:** Dickson pleads innocent in Municipal Court. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for Nov. 13.
- ▶ **Early November:** Sources say initial DNA testing of semen and saliva found on the body helped link Dickson to the killing. Blood from McGee also was submitted for testing but did not match. DNA — or deoxyribonucleic acid — is generally known as a "genetic fingerprint."
- ▶ **Nov. 13:** Murder charges against Dickson are dropped after a second, more sophisticated DNA test. He is released from jail. Authorities, however, refuse to fully clear him.
- ▶ **Nov. 14:** At a news conference, Dickson's relatives say he is in seclusion because he fears police "tried to frame him" for Dorian's rape and killing.
- ▶ **Feb. 20, 1997:** Police announce they are looking for a possible witness, a white man admitted to Dorian's apartment Aug. 19. Dickson is African-American.
- ▶ **March 6:** Peter Dorian begins distributing hundreds

## Rezone: Questions asked about Fresno developer

Continued from Page A1  
independent source that part of the questioning was about Bonadelle.

Sorensen was on trial last summer on charges of racketeering, extortion and money laundering. The trial ended when Sorensen pleaded guilty to extortion and obstruction of justice.

At the time, then U.S. Attorney Charles J. Stevens said the agreement by Sorensen to cooperate with the government in return for a lighter sentence would aid investigators.

"We anticipate that we'll get additional information and additional leads that we can use to further fuel, at least the Clovis side of the investigation and perhaps even the Fresno side of the investigation," Stevens said in June 1996.

In recent weeks, agents requested documents related to two Clovis housing projects developed by Bonadelle's son, John A. Bonadelle, and his son-in-law, Jerry DeYoung, according to Clovis City Clerk Mike Prandini.

"Two agents have visited City Hall on more than one occasion in the last month," a Clovis City Hall source said.

Agents have also recently questioned a Clovis City Council member and a friend of Bonadelle's.

Clovis City Council Member Tom Stearns said he was questioned a few weeks ago by an FBI agent working on Operation Rezone.

Stearns said the conversation centered on Bonadelle and his history as a builder in Clovis.

Stearns said Bonadelle "never did anything inappropriate with me."

Stearns lost his council seat in March 1992 and says Bonadelle and many of his allies played a pivotal role in his defeat. Bonadelle, according to Stearns and campaign records, donated to the successful campaigns of his challengers, Sorensen and Glynn Bryant.

Bryant, like Sorensen, resigned his council seat because of his role with the Operation Rezone investigation.

Bryant pleaded guilty to feder-

al charges and is awaiting sentencing.

Stearns was re-elected in March.

In addition to conducting interviews, FBI agents have become more visible at Clovis City Hall in recent weeks.

Prandini said the FBI requested city records pertaining to two WestCal Inc. developments. Bonadelle does not have an interest in WestCal, but the home-building business is owned by Bonadelle's son and DeYoung.

"They requested information regarding staff reports and council minutes regarding a Peach Avenue project south of Alluvial and a project at southeast corner of Temperance and Bullard," Prandini said.

DeYoung and Bonadelle Jr. did not return telephone calls Wednesday.

The WestCal project near Peach and Alluvial avenues was a 24-acre parcel of land zoned for industrial use. WestCal requested that the zoning be changed to accommodate housing.

In the other project, WestCal requested that the city allow for more houses to be built on a 40-acre parcel at Bullard and Temperance avenues.

According to city documents, both projects were opposed by residents who live near the areas.

However, both projects won approval on a 3-2 vote, with Sorensen, Bryant and former Clovis Mayor Dave Lawson supporting them.

In an unrelated development case, Lawson pleaded guilty to mail fraud charges as part of the Operation Rezone investigation.

He awaits sentencing.

It was Lawson, Sorensen and Bryant who were the controlling bloc on the council, often forming the majority on 3-2 votes favorable to developers.

Lawson lost his re-election bid in April 1994, a month after news of Operation Rezone first broke.

## Computers: Enemies

will now work for...

# OPINION

## Bribery's destructive toll

### Land-use decisions must be scrupulously fair

**T**he federal indictment of one of the San Joaquin Valley's most powerful developers on bribery and charges relating to the corruption of local land use politics should sound an alarm up and down California in communities struggling to balance growth with the need to preserve farmland. In cities such as Fresno and Clovis — where the federal probe has already netted nine convictions of city council members, lobbyists and planning consultants — it is clear that the local political system has been manipulated for extraordinary personal gain at the cost of public trust.

These allegations against developer John Bonadelle, whose family has built 15,000 homes in the region since the 1950s, are presently just that: allegations. He deserves the presumption of innocence and the full opportunity to vigorously defend himself in court. Yet it is not too soon to merely read the details of the 30-page, 13-count indictment to learn of the kind of political system that any community should seek to avoid.

The probe was named "Operation Rezone" in reference to a Fresno-area planning consultant who — before he went to prison — drove a car with the license plate REZONE. Rezoning is the political decision made by cities and counties to convert land from one set of allowable uses to another. Such changes can create riches. If any coalition of private citizens and public officials manages to manipulate the political process so that zoning matters are predetermined, the result is the kind of corruption alleged by Operation Rezone.

Farmland on the edge of town is an enticing target for rezoning schemes because of the

possible huge profits. So long as the land is zoned as farmland outside an urban service area, it has modest value, perhaps \$3,000 to \$5,000 an acre. The same land, rezoned for development inside an urban service area, suddenly becomes many times more valuable.

Developer Bill Tatham Jr. felt he was being asked for a bribe when the lobbyist with the REZONE license plate told him it would require a \$10,000 "fee" for the Clovis City Council to rezone his land. Tatham complained to the FBI, which equipped him with a hidden microphone for his next meeting with the lobbyist and a city councilman. That lobbyist is now serving a 21-month prison term and cooperating with authorities. The majority of that City Council has since been convicted of various zoning-related crimes.

**T**he judicial system will continue to help determine which allegations raised by Operation Rezone are true. One can't help but wonder how many Tathams somewhere in California are being shaken down for money in exchange for a predetermined vote, but are unwilling to come forward. They have reason to be fearful, given what has happened to Tatham. He has been ostracized from the local business community and suffered economic losses for doing the right thing by revealing to law enforcement what had been the secret world of political corruption.

For locally elected political leaders, making the right land-use decisions in a scrupulous fair process is plenty tough. It is up to them, developers, the government staff and concerned citizens to ensure that these decisions are not determined by money, either above or beneath the table.

Wagon

194B-SC-23790

FBIHQ INTERROGATORY  
WHITE COLLAR CRIME PROGRAM  
PUBLIC CORRUPTION SUBPROGRAM  
SACRAMENTO DIVISION

DRAFT

3/2/98

- 1) The White Collar Crime Program (WCCP) in the Sacramento Division is ranked as the number one program. Sacramento Division has listed public corruption as the number one crime problem within the WCCP.
- 2) Sacramento Division has indicated that public corruption within their territory is a pervasive problem that permeates throughout the Legislative and Executive branches of government. Sacramento has developed a good intelligence base in the public corruption field as evidenced by their REZONE investigation. Caution should be exercised by Sacramento not to rely on the successes of the REZONE investigation but to continue to maintain their good intelligence base.
- 3) Sacramento's major public corruption case is summarized below:

REZONE  
CSLPO - LOCAL LEVEL:  
OO: SACRAMENTO

This investigation, which began in 1994, addresses corruption within the Fresno and Clovis City, California City governments. Sacramento has enjoyed several successful prosecutions of City Councilmen in this area of California.

Recently, on February 20, 1998, a federal grand jury indicted John Bonadelle, James W. Logan, and Robert C. Lung. The indictment alleges that Bonadelle, a prominent developer, used his land development company in a pattern of racketeering activity which included three acts of bribery, one act of mail fraud, and four acts of witness tampering.

Lung, a Fresno City Council member, was charged with two counts of honest services mail fraud, money laundering, and accepting bribe money. These charges stemmed from his involvement of accepting bribe money from Bonadelle and Jon C. Thomason, another developer. Lung filed a false conflict of interest statement, under oath, and did not report money received by Bonadelle and Thomason. Lung was also charged with money laundering associated with the money he received by Thomason.

James W. Logan was charged with corruptly offering and giving deposits at the bank in which Glynn Bryant, Clovis City, California City Councilman was branch manager, with intent to

influence Bryant in connection with an issue in front of the City Council.

The indictment also includes forfeiture provisions of property worth \$672,662. Approximately 14 individuals, including City Councilman, have been convicted in this investigation and other indictments are anticipated.

4) Yes. The Public Corruption Unit is in full agreement with the crime problem as stated by Sacramento.

5) Sacramento is devoting appropriate investigative personnel to the public corruption crime problem at the present time. PCU cautions that Sacramento should continue their development of a good intelligence base.

6) PCU has not observed or detected any existing problems within Sacramento's public corruption subprogram. PCU has observed innovative measures implemented by Sacramento including RICO charges and the initiation of an 800-corruption hotline.

7) The PCU encourages all field divisions to continually examine and augment their intelligence base. There are several ways to accomplish this goal.

PC investigations include legislative, regulatory, contractual, judicial and law enforcement corruption. An intelligence base should contain any individual who comes into contact with public officials. This includes citizens, businesspeople, government employees, contractors, vendors, citizen watchdog groups, the media, and even other public officials. These individuals, because of their contacts and associations with the public officials, frequently have knowledge of corruption.

Liaison efforts will assist in ensuring agents come into contact with these individuals. This includes interaction with other squads (i.e., drug squads), other law enforcement agencies (local and state police), regulatory agencies, and municipal and state governments. The individuals within these organizations need to understand the FBI's mission and jurisdiction in public corruption matters, to ensure the information is appropriately disseminated.

A detailed guide to developing an intelligence base for public corruption investigations is contained within the Field Guide for Public Corruption.

8) PCU does not wish a face-to-face discussion of any issues prior to the inspection of the Sacramento Division. Any

questions regarding this matter should be referred to Unit Chief

[REDACTED] PCU, Room 3149, ext [REDACTED]

b7C





# FBI FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

b7C

This came  
in Fri. night  
@ 6:30 (SP)

I thought it could  
wait until Monday A.M.

## PRECEDENCE

- ☒ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION

- ☐ Top Secret  
☐ Secret  
☐ Confidential  
☐ Sensitive  
☐ Unclassified

Time Transmitted:

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BPP

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4

(including cover sheet)

To: FBIHQ Public Corruption Unit  
Name of Office

Date: 2/20/98

Facsimile Number:

Attn:

SSA

Name

Telephone

From:

Sacramento  
Name of Office

Subject:

Reggie - CSL PD -

b7C

Local Level

194B-SC-23790

Special Handling Instructions:

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Approved:

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press release - Reggie

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194B-SC-23790 -



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney  
Eastern District of California

355 Capitol Mall, Suite 1550  
Sacramento, California 95814

916/554-2700  
Fax 916/554-2100

PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 20, 1998

**FEDERAL GRAND JURY INDICTS FRESNO-AREA  
DEVELOPER JOHN BONADELLE FOR HIS EFFORT TO  
CORRUPT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND TAMPER WITH WITNESSES**

United States Attorney Paul L. Seave announced that a federal grand jury today returned an indictment in the investigation into public corruption in the Fresno/Clovis area. Those charged in the Indictment include John Bonadelle, James W. Logan, and Robert C. Lung.

In Count One, John Bonadelle is charged with conducting and participating in the affairs of his land development company, Land Dynamics, through a pattern of racketeering activity. Bonadelle's racketeering activity consisted of three acts of bribery, one act of mail fraud, and four acts of witness tampering.

Bonadelle is also charged in three counts (Counts Two, Three, and Nine) of corruptly giving or offering to give something of value to local government officials in connection with the business of the government agency. Those counts include the following:

- Bonadelle offered to give Fresno County Supervisor Stan Oken testimony favorable to Oken in a civil action to which Oken was a party with intent to influence Oken in connection with the Clovis sphere of influence issue, which was considered by, and was to be considered by, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.

- Bonadelle gave former Fresno City Councilmember Robert C. Lung \$9,800 with intent to influence Lung in connection with city council business, including the Clovis sphere of influence issue, which was considered by, and was to be considered by, the Fresno City Council.

- Bonadelle gave former Clovis City Councilmember Glynn L. Bryant deposits at Bryant's branch bank with intent to reward and influence Bryant in connection with issues concerning property located on the southeast corner of Bullard and Temperance, and property located on the east side of Peach and the south side of Alluvial, in Clovis, California.

Bonadelle is charged in Count Four with money laundering. Bonadelle is charged with routing through an intermediary the \$9,800 he gave to Lung.

Bonadelle is also charged with Robert C. Lung in an honest services mail fraud scheme (Counts Seven and Eight). As set forth more completely in the Indictment, Bonadelle is charged with paying Robert C. Lung too much money for a truck, tractor, and other equipment. The overpayment, which exceeded \$1,000, represented a gift to Lung from Bonadelle. The Indictment charges that the overpayment was given and received to influence Lung in his official actions in connection with Fresno City Council business. Bonadelle and Lung are charged with filing, and assisting in the filing of, false conflict of interests statements (Statements of Economic Interests) in which Lung stated under oath that he had received no reportable income, gifts, or loans other than those listed in the statement, which did not include the money he received from Bonadelle through an intermediary.

Bonadelle is also charged with four counts of witness tampering. The witness tampering pertains to Bonadelle's efforts to persuade William Tatham, Jr., Jeffrey T. Roberts, Leif C. Sorensen, and Glynn L. Bryant not to communicate information to law enforcement authorities relating to the commission of any federal offense, including those committed by former Clovis City Councilmember Leif C. Sorensen. Sorensen pled guilty in June 1996 to extortion under color of official right of William Tatham, Jr.

As for Robert C. Lung, he is charged with accepting money from John Bonadelle (Count Three) and Jon C. Thomason (Count Five), intending to be influenced and rewarded in connection with business of the Fresno City Council, including the Clovis sphere of influence issue and the Herndon Avenue access issue.

Lung is also charged in Count Six with money laundering, which pertains to a \$5,000 payment he received from Thomason's wife.

Finally, Lung is charged in the honest services mail fraud scheme set forth in Counts Seven and Eight with taking money from Jon Thomason intending to be influenced in his official actions in connection with Fresno City Council business. Lung filed false Statements of Economic Interests in which he stated under oath that he had received no reportable income, gifts, or loans other than those listed in the statement, which did not include the money he received from Thomason, including the money from Thomason's wife.

As to the last defendant, James W. Logan is charged in Count Nine with corruptly offering and giving to Glynn L. Bryant deposits at the bank of which Bryant was branch manager, with intent to reward and influence Bryant in connection with issues concerning property located on the southeast corner of Bullard and Temperance, and property located on the east side of Peach and the south side of Alluvial, in Clovis, California.

Logan is also charged in Count Thirteen with witness tampering of Glynn L. Bryant.

Racketeering is a federal offense punishable by twenty years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. Money laundering is punishable by a term in prison of twenty years and a \$500,000 fine. Witness tampering is punishable by ten years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. Mail fraud is punishable by five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

In announcing the Indictment, Mr. Seave said, "The Department of Justice is committed to the eradication of public corruption at all levels of government. This latest Indictment focuses on two who allegedly supplied the money and one who took it."

Mr. Seave said that the investigation is ongoing, but additional suspects will not be identified by authorities.

The case is being investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Internal Revenue Service. The case will be prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys John K. Vincent and Mark L. Krotoski.

(01/26/1998)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: PRIORITY

Date: 11/04/1998

To: Criminal Investigative ✓

Attn: SSA [redacted]

Public Corruption Unit,

San Francisco

Attn: [redacted]

(Fax)

b7C

b7C

From: Sacramento  
Squad 7

Contact: SSA [redacted]

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]: jjw

Case ID #: 194B-SC-23790 (Pending)

Title: REZONE;  
CSLPO - Local Level

**Synopsis:** For the information of FBIHQ and the SF Division, on 11/8/98, SC expects FGJ, EDC, Sacramento to return a "true" bill charging subjects former Fresno City Councilman and former Speaker of the California State Assembly BRIAN DANIEL SENTENCICH, residence San Francisco, CA and Fresno entrepreneur ROBERT YING YANG, residence Fresno, CA with a number of criminal violations, including Bribery, Honest Service Mail Fraud, and Witness Tampering.

**Reference:** SC EC FBIHQ, DTD., 4/1/98. Serial 361

**Administrative:** Information copy of this communication is being sent to SF due to their mutual investigative interest re subject SENTENCICH who is currently employed as Mayor WILLIE BROWN's 911 Liaison Officer.

**Details:** On 11/8/98, SC expects AUSA John K. Vincent to request the Federal Grand Jury (FGJ), Eastern District of California (EDC), Sacramento to return a "true" bill charging subjects former Fresno City Councilman and former Speaker of the California State Assembly BRIAN DANIEL SENTENCICH, and Fresno

*Veila,  
Dis file.  
BB*

*3149  
194BSC-23790- NR*

To: Criminal Investigative From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790

entrepreneur ROBERT YING YANG, with 1 count each Bribery, 2 counts each Honest Services Mail Fraud, and Yang with one additional count of Witness Tampering, all in violation Title 18, USC, Sections 666, 2-1341 & 1346), and 1512. Thereafter, AUSA will request U.S. Magistrate to issue bench warrants, commanding agents to arrest both subjects SENTENCICH and YANG.

SC requests SF to concur with SC case agents effecting the arrest of subject SENTENCICH (with SF's assistance) in the hopes case agents might be able to obtain a statement from defendant SENTENCICH, while he is in custody. Subject YANG resides in the Fresno area, inside SC's territory, and as such will be arrested by SC agents in Fresno. Also, subject YANG is reportedly on parole as a result of a federal bank fraud conviction, sustained in 1/94.

As previously reported, to date, captioned REZONE investigation as resulted in twenty-two (22) individuals being charged in Indictments returned and/or Informations filed (some defendants more than once), securing the convictions of twelve (12) defendants.

SC's most recent accomplishment occurred, on 6/12/98, when defendant former Fresno City Councilman ROBERT CHARLES LUNG plead "guilty" to two (2) counts of Honest Service Mail Fraud (HSMF), and one (1) count filing a false tax return, and agreed to cooperate in the ongoing RICO investigation involving defendants Fresno developer JOHN BONADELLE and former Fresno City Councilman JAMES W. LOGAN. Both subjects BONADELLE, and LOGAN, were charged, along with defendant LUNG in a RICO Indictment returned by the FGJ, EDC, Sacramento, on February 20, 1998. Trial with respect to defendants BONADELLE and LOGAN is now scheduled 1/26/99.

The following is a description of subjects SENTENCICH and YANG:

To: Criminal Investigative From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790

**Descriptive Data:**

Main Subject

Name -

Last:

SENTENCICH

First:

BRIAN

Middle:

DANIEL

b7C

DDN:

Race:

W

Sex:

M

DOB:

[REDACTED]

DLN:

(CA) N8443084

SOC:

[REDACTED]

Address -

House #:

Street Name:

Street Suffix:

Unit:

City:

State:

Postal Code:

California

94109-7200

Address -

House #:

Pre Direction:

Street Name:

Street Suffix:

City:

State:

Postal Code:

California

93704

b7C

Phone:

Phone:

Phone:

Miscellaneous -

To: Criminal Investigative From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790

Main Subject

Name -

Last:

First:

Middle:

Race:

Sex:

DOB:

POB:

DLN:

FBI:

LPN:

SOC:

Alias (es) :

Last:

First:

Middle:

Last:

First:

Middle:

Last:

First:

Middle:

Address -

House #:

Pre Direction:

Street Name:

Street Suffix:

Unit:

City:

State:

Postal Code:

Address -

House #:

Pre Direction:

Street Name:

Street Suffix:

Unit:

City:

State:

Postal Code:

Phone:

Phone:

Phone:

Yang

Robert

Ying

A

M

Loas

(CA) N9207750

(CIT #) A06911522

Yang

Robert

Yang

Ying

Ying

Yang

California

93727

California

93727

b7C

b7C



To: Criminal Investigative From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790

To: Criminal Investigative From: Sacramento  
Re: 194B-SC-23790

LEAD (s):

Set Lead 1:

SAN FRANCISCO

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Assist Sacramento in locating and arresting subject  
BRIAN D. SENTENCICH as noted above.

Set Lead 2:

SACRAMENTO

AT SACRAMENTO, CA

Will coordinate with SF the arrest of subject BRIAN D.  
SENTENCICH as noted above.

♦♦